

Purpose in Mufasa's Resilience in *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024)

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Abstract

This article examines the role of purpose in shaping Mufasa's resilience in Barry Jenkins's film *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024). Derived from an undergraduate thesis, this study focuses on purpose as one of the main reasons behind resilience based on Edith Grotberg's resilience theory. Using a qualitative descriptive method, the data are taken from Mufasa's dialogues, actions, and narrative contexts presented in the film. The findings reveal that Mufasa's strong sense of purpose particularly his commitment to protecting others, maintaining justice, and upholding the Circle of Life functions as a central psychological force that motivates him to endure hardship, loss, and adversity. Purpose enables Mufasa not only to survive difficult circumstances but also to transform suffering into moral strength and leadership capacity. This study concludes that purpose is a foundational element of Mufasa's resilience.

Keywords: *Film Analysis, Mufasa, Purpose, Resilience*

INTRODUCTION

Resilience is a crucial psychological concept that explains how individuals survive, adapt, and grow after facing adversity (Grotberg, 2003; Masten, 2014). In literary and film studies, resilience is often represented through characters who encounter loss, suffering, and moral dilemmas yet continue to move forward with strength and meaning (Southwick et al., 2014). One film that strongly portrays this theme is *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024), directed by Barry Jenkins. The film narrates Mufasa's life journey from an orphaned cub to a respected king, emphasizing the psychological struggles behind his transformation (Nathanson, 2024).

This study focuses on purpose as a key reason behind Mufasa's resilience. Purpose provides meaning, direction, and motivation, especially in times of crisis (The Loss Foundation, 2025). According to resilience scholars, individuals who possess a clear life purpose are more capable of enduring stress, maintaining hope, and persevering through adversity (Peterson & Seligman, 2004; Sharma & Yukhymenko-Lescroart, 2024). In Mufasa's case, purpose is reflected in his desire to protect others, maintain harmony in the Pride Lands, and fulfill his role within the Circle of Life.

By narrowing the analysis to purpose, this article contributes to a deeper understanding of how resilience is constructed psychologically in fictional characters. This focus highlights how emotional bonds, hope, and future-oriented goals shape resilience, particularly within animated films that convey strong moral and emotional messages (Rate et al., 2007; Sharma & Yukhymenko-Lescroart, 2024).

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative descriptive method to analyze purpose as a key factor in Mufasa's resilience in *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024). The purpose of using a qualitative approach is to describe and interpret psychological meanings presented in the film rather than to measure them numerically. The primary data are obtained from Mufasa's dialogues, actions, and narrative contexts in the film, while secondary data are collected from books and journal articles related to resilience and purpose, particularly Edith Grotberg's resilience theory. The data analysis process involves carefully observing the film, selecting relevant scenes, classifying the data, and interpreting them based on the theoretical framework to explain how purpose motivates Mufasa to endure adversity and develop resilience.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Purpose in Mufasa's Resilience in *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024)

Mufasa: The Lion King (2024), directed by Barry Jenkins, portrays resilience through Mufasa's life journey, particularly by emphasizing **purpose** as the psychological force that motivates him to survive loss, endure suffering, and move forward despite adversity. Purpose in this film is closely connected to memory, hope, moral values, and future-oriented goals. Throughout the narrative, Mufasa's sense of purpose is shaped by parental guidance, emotional bonds, and visions of a meaningful future, which function as the foundation of his resilience. The following data illustrate how purpose is constructed and developed through Mufasa's dialogues and experiences.

Data 1

MASEGO: *"You're too fast, I've never beaten you, nobody has ever beaten you."*
(00:12:48,642 – 00:12:53,856)

In this scene, Masego acknowledges Mufasa's speed and ability by stating that no one has ever beaten him. Masego's statement shows admiration and recognition of Mufasa's natural talent from a young age. This moment illustrates how Mufasa is perceived as strong and capable by those around him, which contributes to his growing confidence and sense of potential (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 2

MUFASA: *"Come on, Mufasa, you can do this."*
MASEGO: *"Find your mother's voice!"*
(00:14:31,537 – 00:14:35,207)

In this scene, Mufasa is seen encouraging himself while facing a dangerous situation, showing his inner struggle and fear. Masego then urges Mufasa to focus by listening to his mother's voice, guiding him to remain calm and composed. This interaction illustrates the emotional support Masego provides, helping Mufasa regain control of himself and face the threat with courage and confidence (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 3

ESHE: *"Close your eyes and tell me what you hear. What you feel."*
(00:28:23,827 – 00:28:30,250)

In this scene, Eshe instructs Mufasa to close his eyes and focus on his senses by listening and feeling his surroundings. Through this exercise, Eshe trains Mufasa to become more aware of potential danger without relying solely on sight. This moment shows how Eshe helps Mufasa build confidence in his own abilities and encourages him to trust his instincts, which later supports his survival during dangerous situations (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 4

MUFASA: *"Sometimes I get a scent. It's barely a trace on the wind. It smells like home. Then it's gone."*
(00:29:12,584 – 00:29:26,598)

In this scene, Mufasa expresses his longing for home by describing a faint scent that reminds him of where he belongs. The scent represents feelings of safety, belonging, and memories of his childhood. This moment reveals Mufasa's emotional vulnerability as he reflects on his lost home, while also showing how these memories continue to give him comfort and strength as he moves forward despite the loss (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 5

ESHE: *"Mufasa, your parents are still out there. We can keep looking."*
MUFASA: *"I've lost them, Eshe. You're wasting your time training me like this."*
ESHE: *"But these skills you have, no other male has them."*
(00:29:27,307 – 00:29:38,443)

In this scene, Eshe encourages Mufasa to continue despite his belief that his parents are lost. Mufasa expresses despair, while Eshe emphasizes his unique abilities, highlighting his potential and giving him motivation to keep moving forward (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 6

MUFASA: *"We need to prepare. They're downwind, less than a day away."*
(00:34:05,376 – 00:34:08,880)

In this scene, Mufasa warns the group about the approaching danger by observing the wind direction and distance. His statement shows alertness, leadership, and responsibility in ensuring the group's safety (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 7

MUFASA: *"Send a scout and you'll see. They'll be coming for us."*
(00:34:13,843 – 00:34:18,264)

In this scene, Mufasa insists on sending a scout to confirm the approaching threat. His statement shows confidence in his observations and determination to prepare the group for the impending danger (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 8

ESHE: *"Mufasa, look out there, beyond the light. You know what I see? I see the place your mother told you about."*
(00:37:58,317 – 00:38:05,449)

In this scene, Eshe reminds Mufasa of his mother's stories by pointing toward a place beyond the light. Her words encourage Mufasa to believe in a hopeful future and restore his trust in the aspirations his mother once shared (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 9



ESHE: “A place beyond the river's end, across the deepest canyon on the other side of the mountains, a place beyond the horizon itself.”

(00:38:06,117 – 00:38:14,208)

In this scene, Eshe describes a distant and beautiful place as a symbol of hope and possibility. Her words encourage Mufasa to believe that a meaningful future lies beyond his current hardships (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 10

ESHE: A pride land so green, so perfect that to see it is to see—

MUFASA: Milele.

ESHE: Yes, forever.

(00:38:15,001 – 00:38:26,512)

In this scene, Eshe describes an ideal and peaceful land, which Mufasa identifies as Milele. Their exchange reflects a shared vision of a hopeful and enduring future, showing Mufasa's understanding of Milele as more than a place, but as a symbol of permanence and hope (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 11

MUFASA: “My parents spoke of Milele often. My mother told me it was where we were going.”

(00:38:27,346 – 00:38:31,726)

In this scene, Mufasa recalls the stories his parents shared about Milele. His statement shows that Milele holds personal meaning as a connection to his family and serves as a symbol of hope rooted in his past (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 12

ESHE: “Go, Mufasa. Find your way home.”

(00:38:50,745 – 00:38:55,207)

In this scene, Eshe urges Mufasa to escape when danger approaches. Her words emphasize that returning home remains Mufasa's main goal, while also expressing care and concern for his safety (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 13

ESHE: “Now both of you go. Go and find your place in the circle of love.”

(00:39:21,609 – 00:39:27,740)

In this scene, Eshe urges Mufasa and Taka to leave immediately as danger approaches. Her words encourage them to seek a safe and loving place, highlighting hope for a better future despite separation and fear (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 14

MUFASA: “All the way to Milele.”

(00:50:39,411 – 00:50:41,329)

In this scene, Mufasa reaffirms his commitment to reaching Milele. His statement shows that Milele represents a guiding goal and a source of hope that continues to direct his actions despite the difficulties he faces (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 15

MUFASA: “Not a myth.”

(00:50:42,914 – 00:50:43,540)

In this scene, Mufasa rejects the idea that Milele is merely a myth. His statement reflects strong belief and confidence in the reality of Milele as a meaningful goal that guides his journey (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 16

MUFASA: “Wait, did you say Milele?”

(00:53:53,291 – 00:53:55,125)

In this scene, Mufasa reacts with surprise when Rafiki mentions Milele. His response shows that Milele holds deep personal meaning for him and reinforces his sense of hope after realizing that others also know about it (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 17

MUFASA: “I see my parents. I feel them everywhere.”

(00:57:21,166 – 00:57:25,958)

In this scene, Mufasa expresses that he still feels the presence of his parents through memories and emotions. His statement shows how their love continues to guide and strengthen him, helping him move forward while accepting his loss (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 18

RAFIKI: “Your journey is not a dream, Mufasa. Your mother is guiding you. And where you are going, a family awaits.”

(00:57:42,500 – 00:57:51,000)

In this scene, Rafiki reassures Mufasa that his journey has meaning and direction. His words reinforce Mufasa's belief that he is guided by his mother's presence and moving toward a place where belonging and family await (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 19

SARABI: "Where's he going?"
MUFASA: "Beyond the horizon itself."
(01:10:13,833 - 01:10:17,333)

In this scene, Mufasa explains that Rafiki's journey goes beyond a physical destination. His response shows an understanding of the journey as a search for deeper meaning and purpose, as well as respect for Rafiki's wisdom (Nathanson, 2024).

Data 20

RAFIKI: "So, Mufasa, I see your family has been awaiting you in Milele after all."
MUFASA: "Yes, Rafiki. Yes, they were."
RAFIKI: "It is your time, Mufasa."
(01:46:52,041 - 01:47:13,333)

In this scene, Rafiki confirms that Mufasa's family has been waiting for him in Milele. Mufasa accepts this calmly, marking the fulfillment of his journey and the realization of harmony and belonging (Nathanson, 2024).

The Significance Idea Behind Purpose in Resilience

Purpose refers to a sense of meaning, direction, and motivation that guides individuals in facing challenges and adversity (Ramadhani et al., 2025; Wijayanto et al., 2025). Having a clear purpose helps individuals understand why they must continue to survive and persevere despite difficult circumstances. Purpose plays an essential role in psychological resilience because it allows individuals to interpret hardship as part of a meaningful life journey rather than as meaningless suffering (Peterson & Seligman, 2004; Sharma & Yukhymenko-Lescroart, 2024). When individuals feel that their lives have meaning, they are more likely to remain hopeful, motivated, and emotionally strong during times of loss and crisis.

Moreover, purpose is often formed through emotional connections, personal values, and future-oriented goals. Supportive relationships, memories of loved ones, and visions of a better future can strengthen an individual's sense of purpose and provide inner guidance in stressful situations (Rate et al., 2007; The Loss Foundation, 2025). Purpose enables individuals to regulate fear, maintain focus, and make thoughtful decisions even when facing uncertainty. Rather than being driven solely by survival instincts, individuals with purpose act with intention and responsibility, which enhances their ability to cope with difficulty.

Furthermore, purpose functions as psychological capital that sustains resilience over time. Individuals who possess a strong sense of purpose are better able to endure emotional pain, adapt to change, and continue moving forward despite setbacks (Sharma & Yukhymenko-Lescroart, 2024). Purpose does not eliminate suffering instead, it gives suffering meaning and transforms it into motivation for growth. In this sense, purpose becomes a central foundation of resilience, helping individuals remain committed to life goals, maintain emotional stability, and find strength in the face of prolonged hardship (Calista & Pasopati, 2024; Pasopati et al., 2025).

Purpose in Mufasa's Resilience in *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024)

This section discusses how purpose functions as a central element of Mufasa's resilience in *Mufasa: The Lion King* (2024). Purpose is portrayed as the psychological force that gives meaning, direction, and motivation, enabling Mufasa to endure loss, overcome adversity, and continue his journey. These ideas are further examined below:

In Data 1, Masego's statement reflects the formation of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose is often shaped through early recognition of one's abilities by significant others. Masego's praise affirms Mufasa's exceptional speed and potential from a young age. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension of The Loss Foundation (2025), which emphasizes that recognizing meaning in personal strengths provides direction in life. Through this recognition, Mufasa develops internal motivation to grow and contribute. This motivation later helps him remain resilient when facing hardship, as supported by Peterson and Seligman (2004).

In Data 2, Masego's encouragement reflects the development of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose can emerge from emotional guidance that provides inner direction during moments of fear. By urging Mufasa to find his mother's voice, Masego helps him regain calmness and courage. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), which explains that recalling meaningful emotional connections gives individuals reasons to survive. Mufasa's bravery is therefore driven by a deeper goal rooted in love and memory rather than spontaneous courage. This supports Peterson and Seligman's (2004) view that purpose derived from close relationships strengthens resilience under stress.

In Data 3, Eshe's instruction reflects the development of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose can be strengthened through self-awareness and recognition of inner abilities. By asking Mufasa to close his eyes and focus on what he hears and feels, Eshe guides him to trust his instincts. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), which emphasizes that recognizing personal strengths provides direction and meaning in life. Through this realization, Mufasa becomes internally motivated to survive and protect himself in dangerous situations. This idea is supported by Peterson and Seligman (2004), who argue that awareness of one's strengths enhances life purpose and resilience.

In Data 4, Mufasa's expression reflects the development of his sense of purpose. This is because purpose can emerge from emotional memories connected to belonging and identity (Ramadhani et al., 2025; Wijayanto et al., 2025). Mufasa's description of the faint scent of home reveals his longing for safety and connection. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where emotional memories provide meaning that helps individuals move forward after loss. The scent functions as a symbolic guide that directs Mufasa toward his sense of home. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who state that purpose often arises from hope and emotional connection, strengthening resilience amid separation and loss.

In Data 5, Eshe's statement reflects the formation of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose can be rebuilt by redirecting focus from loss toward personal potential. By emphasizing that Mufasa possesses unique abilities, Eshe shifts his attention away from despair. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), which explains that believing life still has meaning helps individuals survive difficult circumstances. Through this reassurance, Mufasa develops a renewed goal to continue growing and using his abilities. This supports Peterson and Seligman's (2004) view that recognizing personal strengths shapes purpose and strengthens resilience during loss and crisis.

In Data 6, Mufasa's warning reflects the development of his sense of purpose. This is because purpose can manifest as responsibility toward the safety of others. By recognizing the approaching danger, Mufasa shows awareness and concern for the group's survival. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where having a clear goal helps individuals remain calm and focused under threat. Mufasa's purpose directs his actions and prevents him from acting out of panic. This supports Rate et al. (2007), who state that meaningful and goal-oriented leadership enables individuals to act resiliently in high-risk situations.

In Data 7, Mufasa's insistence on sending a scout reflects his sense of purpose. This is because purpose strengthens determination when facing uncertainty and danger. Mufasa's confidence in his observation shows his commitment to protecting the group. This moment reflects the Purpose dimension in The Loss Foundation (2025), as maintaining collective safety gives him direction and focus. His decisive action demonstrates purpose-driven leadership rather than hesitation. This is consistent with Rate et al. (2007), who argue that purpose-based leadership encourages resilience and decisive action in threatening circumstances.

In Data 8, Eshe's instruction to look beyond the light reflects the formation of Mufasa's purpose. This is because purpose is often connected to hope and future-oriented vision. By referring to the place described by Mufasa's mother, Eshe reconnects him with a meaningful goal beyond his present grief. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where envisioning a greater direction helps individuals endure emotional distress. The reminder of future possibilities motivates Mufasa to continue his journey. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who state that hope-based purpose enhances resilience during emotional hardship.

In Data 9, Eshe's description of a distant place reflects the strengthening of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose can be built through hopeful images of the future. The metaphor of a place beyond the horizon encourages Mufasa to believe in possibilities beyond his current suffering (Calista & Pasopati, 2024; Pasopati et al., 2025). This moment reflects the Purpose dimension in The Loss Foundation (2025), which explains that meaning and long-term goals help individuals remain resilient in stressful situations. Eshe's words reinforce Mufasa's motivation to keep moving forward. This is supported by Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who argue that future-oriented goals prevent individuals from giving up during hardship.

In Data 10, the dialogue about Milele reflects the emergence of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because purpose is strengthened through shared visions of a meaningful future. The idea of Milele as an eternal and perfect land gives Mufasa a stable direction amid emotional uncertainty. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where belief in a hopeful future provides life direction. Milele becomes more than a place, serving as a symbol of permanence and meaning. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who emphasize that long-term, hope-oriented purpose sustains resilience in difficult situations.

In Data 11, Mufasa's recollection of Milele reflects the formation of his sense of purpose from childhood. This is because purpose can be inherited through parental guidance and emotional connection. The stories told by his parents transform Milele from a myth into a meaningful life direction. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where purpose rooted in personal significance strengthens resilience during loss. By remembering his mother's words, Mufasa reconnects with hope that sustains his emotional strength. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who argue that purpose derived from relationships and memories enhances resilience in grief and crisis.

In Data 12, Eshe's instruction for Mufasa to find his way home reflects the reinforcement of his purpose. This is because purpose provides direction for survival and decision-making in critical situations. By urging him to leave, Eshe emphasizes that Mufasa's future is more valuable than the immediate danger. This moment reflects the Purpose dimension in The Loss Foundation (2025), which states that a strong life purpose helps individuals endure threatening circumstances. Eshe's words become a motivating force that encourages Mufasa to keep moving forward. This aligns with Rate et al. (2007), who state that purpose-driven motivation fosters courage and resilience under uncertainty.

In Data 13, Eshe's guidance for Mufasa and Taka to find their place reflects the establishment of a shared purpose. This is because purpose helps individuals cope with separation and displacement. By encouraging them to seek love and safety elsewhere, Eshe reassures them that their journey still holds meaning. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where having a clear life direction strengthens resilience in dangerous conditions. Her words provide emotional strength that enables them to face uncertainty. This is supported by Peterson and Seligman (2004), who explain that hope as a character strength promotes resilience during risk and loss.

In Data 14, Mufasa's statement about going all the way to Milele reflects his firm sense of purpose. This is because purpose guides action beyond immediate reactions to circumstances. His commitment shows that his journey is driven by meaning rather than fear. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension in The Loss Foundation (2025), which explains that a clear life purpose motivates individuals to persist through hardship. Mufasa's determination demonstrates how purpose functions as psychological strength. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who argue that a strong sense of purpose enhances perseverance under pressure.

In Data 15, Mufasa's assertion that Milele is not a myth reflects his belief in a meaningful life purpose. This is because belief strengthens commitment to long-term goals despite doubt. By rejecting skepticism, Mufasa affirms the reality of the purpose he is pursuing. This moment reflects the Purpose dimension in The Loss Foundation (2025), where faith in meaning helps individuals remain resilient amid adversity. His confidence shows psychological strength that goes beyond immediate survival. This aligns with Peterson and Seligman (2004), who state that belief in life's purpose supports resilience and mental toughness.

In Data 16, Mufasa's reaction upon hearing the name Milele reflects the reinforcement of his sense of purpose. This is because purpose becomes stronger when personal beliefs are recognized and shared by others. Hearing Milele mentioned confirms that his vision is real and meaningful. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where socially validated meaning strengthens life direction. Milele is no longer only a personal memory but a shared belief that guides Mufasa forward. This supports Peterson and Seligman (2004), who emphasize that purpose reinforced through social acknowledgment enhances resilience.

In Data 17, Mufasa's statement about sensing his parents reflects the deepening of his sense of purpose. This is because emotional bonds and memories provide meaning that guides individuals through loss. Feeling his parents' presence strengthens Mufasa's inner motivation to continue his journey. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where purpose derived from emotional connection supports endurance during grief. His parents become a source of guidance rather than absence. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who emphasize that purpose rooted in emotional attachment enhances resilience.

In Data 18, Rafiki's reassurance reflects the confirmation of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because external affirmation strengthens belief in a meaningful life direction. By stating that Mufasa's journey is guided and that a family awaits him, Rafiki reinforces the value of his path. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where belief in a meaningful future sustains motivation amid uncertainty. Mufasa's journey is framed as purposeful rather than accidental. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who highlight that purpose grounded in emotional ties and future goals strengthens resilience.

In Data 19, Mufasa's response about going beyond the horizon reflects his understanding of purpose as a guiding life direction. This is because purpose allows individuals to interpret experiences beyond physical outcomes. His statement shows that meaning, not location, defines the journey. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where purpose provides clarity and direction in uncertain situations. Mufasa recognizes that journeys driven by meaning shape perseverance. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who emphasize that a clear sense of purpose enhances endurance during challenges.

In Data 20, the dialogue between Rafiki and Mufasa reflects the fulfillment of Mufasa's sense of purpose. This is because achieving a long-held purpose brings understanding and emotional resolution. Reuniting with his family in Milele gives meaning to his suffering and journey. This moment aligns with the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where life purpose helps individuals accept loss and transition into new life phases. Mufasa's calm acceptance reflects inner peace shaped by purpose. This supports Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who emphasize that fulfilled purpose strengthens resilience and emotional stability.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the selected data, Mufasa's resilience is strongly driven by his sense of purpose, which gradually develops through guidance, emotional memory, and recognition of his inner strengths. Moments involving Eshe play a crucial role in helping Mufasa discover meaning beyond loss, particularly by encouraging him to trust his instincts, remember his connection to home, and acknowledge his unique abilities. These experiences reflect the Purpose dimension proposed by The Loss Foundation (2025), where life direction and meaning emerge as essential factors in surviving hardship. Purpose allows Mufasa to reinterpret his suffering as part of a meaningful journey rather than mere tragedy. Furthermore, the findings align with Peterson and Seligman (2004) and Sharma and Yukhymenko-Lescroart (2024), who argue that purpose rooted in hope, emotional connection, and personal strengths enhances resilience. Therefore, Mufasa's ability to endure loss and danger is not only physical but deeply psychological, grounded in a growing sense of life purpose.

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