CLASS STRUGGLE POTRAYED IN THE FILM UPSIDE DOWN (2013)

Siti Zulaikha Mayarusyadi[1]
Winanda Reisty Oktavia[2]
Dion Tira Erlangga[3]
English Literature
English Education

winanda.reisty1@gmail.com
szlaikhamr@gmail.com

Abstract

Upside Down is a movie was written by Juan Diego Solanas and produced by Claude Legger and Dimitri Rassam on 2013. This movie is from French-Canadian production. This movie is talk about the love between Adam and Eden which was separated because of the gravitational force because both of them are in different worlds. Adam lived in an underworld full of life and poverty while Eden lived in an upper world filled with luxuries and civilizations that were more advanced than the underworld. However, this upper world is built from the intelligence of people from the underworld. This paper analyzes the film with marxist point of view. This movie discussed about the class struggle. The author uses theories of Karl Marx to analyze the elements that contained in this film. This research use qualitative research method. Qualitative research is not using statistic and quantification to analyze data. This research uses expressions, words and actions from the subject. There are two Class Struggle results in this film, i.e. They are the Economic Class Struggle. Because of the bad conditions experienced by people from below caused Adam to try to do the Class Struggle. In addition to economic problems, Adam also undertook Class Struggle with the aim of being reunited with Eden who had lost contact when he had met him. The Motive for Class Struggle by Adam was based on the economic problems that occurred to most people below, and, also because Adam wanted to pursue Eden. The effect on Adam while doing Class Struggle was that he experienced several events that changed his life when he did Class Struggle and afterwards.

Key words: Class Struggle, potrayed, Upside Down film

INTRODUCTION

Various kinds of literature that exist in this world have been found and are also widely enjoyed by various people [1], both literary and oral form with a variety of forms ranging from poetry, drama, films, novels etc [2], [3]. Literature is an imaginative work and uses language as a medium [4], the language is ambiguous, associative, connotative, and expressive [5], [6]. Literature uses language as an expression of the author's expression, one of which is film [7]. The film has the ability to create a sensation of cinematic image and sound, which is supported by a type of film that is filled with plot structures [8], [9] that are full of shock and tension in a very powerful imagination in widescreen format [10]. The strength and ability of films to reach many social segments and then make the film has the potential to influence the audience [11]. Film always records the reality that grows and

develops in society and then projects it onto the screen [12], [13]. So the film always influences and shapes society based on content message behind it [14].

Upside down is a science-fiction, drama, fantasy and romance movie in written and directed by Juan Diego Solanas. The movie was first released in Canada and France on August 2012 [15]. This movie was considering as a modern Romeo and Juliet fairytale [16], it depicting the story between the lovers from split world [17], [18]. The two main characters is Adam who portrayed of Jim Sturgess and Eden who portrayed of Kirsten Dunst. The Upside Down Film,stars Kirsten Dunst, who p lays Eden Moore and Jim Sturgess, who plays Adam Kirk. This film revolves around the love between Adam and Eden who are separated because of the force of gravity because they are in different worlds [19]. Adam lived in an underworld full of life and poverty while Eden lived in an upper world filled with luxuries and civilizations that were more advanced than the underworld [20], [21]. However, this upper world is built from the intelligence of people from the underworld [22]. Uniquely, from a different world, the world above applies the rule that people in the underworld and the upper world cannot be united. The contents of the film is where restrictions occur on people from two worlds to interact with each other [23], [24]. The only official contact for people from both worlds is Transworld, Transworld is made by pulling oil from below to be processed by Transworld and resold due to electricity and high prices below [25], [26]. This caused Adam through the class struggle to change his life, even though Adam did not realize that his actions were a class struggle and had the potential to change his life and those of others [27]. With Bob's help, in the end they can make the two worlds have no more boundaries [28], [29]. In every society, there are always social class differences [30], and the existence of social classes will trigger exploitation [31]. The exploitation of social class will create inequality and then class struggle will emerge [32]. Researchers chose this film because the storyline in this film often occurs in a social environment where class struggle or social class conflict between communities is still felt where the rich may not be with the poor. Social class is considered as a social group in a society determined by a certain position [33], [34]. For Karl Marx, a new class is considered the real class if it is not only objectively a social class by recognizing itself as a class, as a special group in society that has specific interests and wants to fight for it [35]. Based on [36], class is understood in relation to economically, politically and ideologically friendly. In this position it recognizes the place where other

subjectivities lie in the construction of identity and moves the great modernist narrative about the class [37].

Marxism is a school of thought developed by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, in their book The German Ideology [38]. Marxism is actually a theory of economics, history, society, and social revolution [39], [40]. In its development, Marxism is often used as a basis for literary analysis, so that the term sociology of Marxism emerged [41]. According to [42], it will be seen that every society has ruling classes and ruling classes. Marxist sociology of literature is not just a sociology of literature that is concerned with how literature is published and whether they include the working class in it [43], [44]. The aim is to explain the literary work more fully which means to devote sensitive attention to its forms, their flow, and their meanings [45], [46]. But apart from that this also means capturing and understanding the forms, streams, and meanings as a product of a particular history [47]. Relating to the class struggle, [48] insists "what makes a conflict into a class struggle is, first, that the parties involved are classes and, second, that the objects of the struggle are interests they have as classes, not as, say, citizens or ethnic groups". In Communist Manifesto (1848), [49] argues that "every class struggle is a political struggle". It determines that class struggle is the only source of revolutionary change [50], [51]. Political classes hold power in society by virtue of an extended range of institutions and organizations supporting the prevailing mode of production [52]. Hence, major political, social, and economic change is impossible without class struggle [53], [54]. The revolution will bring democracy which consists of equality for all members of the society [55].

This research aims to find out the class struggle describe in Upside Down Film. There are several previous study as the references in conducting this study. It has purposed to be as a guide write this part. All of the previous study focusing in class struggle from film as an object. It's from Octian (2015) studies to find out class conflict in film In Time using marxism literary criticism. The researchers analyse the spoken language throught the dialogue script also gesture and appearance that shows in this film. There are three points of result that the writer will present based on this research. In order to analyze the film using Marx, the writer focuses on the base and its superstructure. The base of the film is economy. Time has divided into bourgeoisie and proletariat according to the ownership of time and each class has special characteristic and lifestyle. Bourgeoisie is the class who own means of production and monopolize market and control the population, they set

the rich people can live immortal [56], [57]. The second conclusion is the reason to conflict of these two classes is desire to live immortal. Each class has similar desire but different approach to immortality [58], [59]. The bourgeoisie want to monopoly time and make sure the proletariat who dead as sacrifice regarding to overpopulation issue. For proletariat, they want to live longer than days, they interest is to life longer than days and upgrade they status but the apparatus as the tools of bourgeoisie prevent it and the third is the writes find out there are distinction characteristic in both classes including their special characteristic following their ownership of time [60]. Syvia weys, one of the characters in this film is a bourgeoisie at the early film and then changed into proletariat.

The second is kastanya (2016). She analyse class struggle as an impact unequal treatments done by the bourguis seen from Katnis Everdeen in Suzanne Collin's Catching fire. She find out that the Bourgeoisie performs the unequal treatments through the system that they applied in the society. It can be seen through the Ideology and a system of exercising power called Panopticon [61], [62]. Since the Bourgeoisie are the one with more power, they are to control the lower class whose power less than them. The Bourgeoisie plants the idea in people's mind in order to control them. They control people through the ideology. The third is from Afiani (2015) she analyse about class struggle in hunger games film. This study shows that class struggle reflected in Suzanne Collins's The Hunger Games trilogy is the class struggle between the Capitol and the districts. The Capitol maintains their power in order to keep their empire roll in [63], meanwhile, the districts demand their freedom from the long lasting oppression by the Capitol [64].

This research used theory about Marxist by Karl Marx. Marxist theory has some roles in human life [65]. Marx explains about how society works especially an account of the nature capitalism. Marxism is an ideology based on the concepts of Karl Marx [66]. Marx composed major theories related to the economic system, social system, and the political system [67]. His ideology was spread throughout the world. People who follow this ideology called themself Marxist. Marx's theory of the class first addresses to the core of the class consciousness. Class consciousness is the development of an awareness of belonging to a class, of that class's interest and its enemy [68]. The class consciousness is both precondition and result of the class struggle, than can only be created by the working class itself [69].

Next, the theory addresses the class struggle. According to Schmitt (1997), classes develop in the course of class struggle, composed of groups of people who have similar economic condition, interest, culture, at least in some respects. The full development of classes takes place in the course of extended and complex process [70]. First, small groups struggle locally over issues, of interest to them. Those struggles give rise to organizations that are initially quite ephemeral and only gradually manage to last. Exploitation is the important term in the class struggle. For Marx, exploitation is the term that refers to the extraction of surplus value from one section to another section of the society by taking the form of a subordinate class producing surplus value that a dominant ruling class appropriates with the use or threat of force. According to Elster (1999), the forms of class struggle are many and in vary. They variety from hidden manipulation to overt conflict; from direct confrontation between the two classes involved in a relation of exploitation or domination to complex alliance formation involving three or more classes. The interests of the parties may be implacably opposed or in concord in certain respects. The arena of class struggle can be an enterprise, a branch of the economy, or the political system; the stakes can range from wage increases to the creation of a wholly new set of relations of production. And Marx was mainly concerned with overt forms of the class struggle, opposing two or more organized classes to each other.

In capitalist society the extraction of surplus value is more subtle with workers selling their labor power to the capitalists who then use this labor power to generate surplus value which they then own. In Marx's sense, a person is exploited if he performs more labor than is necessary to produce the goods that he consumes. Meanwhile a person is an exploiter if he works fewer hours than are needed to sustain his consumption. However, capitalist exploitation rests on economic coercion, if the capitalist interferes with alternative employment opportunities for the workers.

METHOD

- Research Design

The analyzing of the data is carried out by qualitative method. Qualitative research is not using statistic and quantification to analyze data. This research uses expressions, words and actions from the subject.

- Data Sources

In this research, the researcher gets the data from Upside Down movie. The data that the researcher uses are the scene and dialogue of Upside Down movie as the main data source. The researcher also uses books, journals, articles and websites that have relation to the topic as supporting data.

- Data Collection Technique

The researcher takes the text, the act and the scene of Upside Down movie for collecting the data. First, the researcher watches the "Upside Down" movie and then reads the script to choose where parts would be chosen to be analyzed using Marxist theory.

The researcher classifies which scene or dialogue in "Upside Down" movie that relate to the research or contain to class struggle. The researcher chooses the data to be used as the main data. And then the researcher makes it simple into units of data that will be easier to be analyzed. The researcher also collects some data as the supporting data, and then the researcher analyzes the data using the theory that is chosen for this research.

- Data Analysis Technique

The analyzing of the data is carried out by qualitative approaches. The researcher focuses on the data that related to the theory. Researchers also saw among the data if among these data have any connection or not with each other. The researcher analyze deeper from scene that choosen, the expression, and the dialog from the movie as the source of data by using marxist theory in the Capitalism concept of Karl Marx.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From explanations above, the researchers found some proof that contains class struggle marixism in this movie:

1. in minutes (00:02:48), the narrator, namely as Adam Krik, the main character in this film tells how the contact between the two worlds namely the world of "Up Top" and the underworld "Down Below" is forbidden to have a relationship. the narrator said *"when any contact between the world is very dangerous and is strictly prohibited"*. From the above sentence, it can be explained that there are class differences that occur in this film between Up Top and Down Below so that they may not have any contact.

2.   (00:02:58). The narrator said *"Up Top (the world above) they grow rich and prosperous, but here, Down Below, we steal the best material from above to warm our house to survive. To have to sacrifice everything including our own lives".*

Fragments of the above sentence, clearly visible class struggle of people in the underworld to survive until they have to sacrifice their lives. because in the underworld is a world for the poor (proletariat) or the situation is different from among the people in the upper world who are very prosperous (Borgeouis).

3.   (00:03:33). The narrator explained *"the only official office here is Transworld, a large company from above that was created to siphon cheap oil from the underworld and sell it to us at a high price, electricity that is also expensive until we cannot afford it"* .

From what the narrator conveyed, it can be concluded how the struggle of the lower classes in the underworld who have experienced the difficulty of survival and the hardships as well as their poverty must experience again the results of wealth from the underworld exploited by the upper world.

4. (00:27:10). William, as the manager at the top of Transworld said to Adam Krik when he was first working at Transworld because he was accepted as a researcher of beauty products made by Adam. Willliam explained to Adam about the provisions in Transworld *"the company's policy does not allow lower people to occupy positions like you in this company".*

From the fragments of William's words, there is a class gap that lower people are not allowed to have important positions in the company and only upper people may have positions. this strongly shows that there is a difference in the treatment prevailing in the company regarding which groups may hold important positions in Transworld.

5. Social inequalities occur also in the minutes (00:27:52). when William tells Adam what rules should not be carried out in the company *"No unnecessary contact with top people, and after every work will always be searched if material is found upside down on you (which means any material / object facing up which means objects it comes from the world above) you will be fired and even jailed."*.

6. (00:28:30) there was an incident where a lower person stole material from the upper world to survive and as a result of his actions they were given a hanging sentence for their actions. The struggle of the underworld class in this film is really hard and difficult because to meet the needs of their lives, they have to lose their lives.

7. (00:30:24) there is a scene of Adam fighting with Albert, a friend of Adam who helps Adam to do research. When Albert opposed Adam working in Transworld because Albert knew it was very dangerous for Adam's life, it was clear Adam's struggle to make research on his beauty cream products to be successful and be able to help Adam's life as well as those around him to avoid trouble even though it threatened his safety.

8. (00:39:26). The struggle of the underworld class, Adam, was again seen when Adam worked overtime to conduct a beauty cream experiment that he made successfully so that he could improve his life even though his overtime would never be paid by Transworld.

9. In minutes (01:12 43-01:12:55). There was a conversation between Edeen Moore and Adam Krik when they first met.

Adam: "*What are you doing?"*

Edeen: "*Looking for my dog".*

Adam: *"What's your name?"*

Edeen: *"I can't talk to you."*

Adam: *"why not?"*

Edeen: *"You from down below ".*

From the fragment of the conversation above can be proven again class differences, social inequalities that occur between the upper world and the underworld where they are people from the upper world may not have contact with people below because of differences in social class.

CONCLUSION

From the results of research conducted by the researchers above it can be concluded that, there is clearly a class struggle in the film Upside Down (2013) which is portrayed by a man named Adam Krik from the underworld "Down Below" to fight for his life and also meet the woman he loved was Edeen Moore who came from the world of "Up Top" which was rich, prosperous and different from Adam who lived from poverty. in this film also depicted how the people of the underworld work in Transworld a large company that is working as employees and people from the upper world have important positions in Transworld. In this film, it is also clear how the class struggle carried out by the lower class, Adam Krik, to improve the economy and the people around him, even though they have to risk their own lives. In addition to Adam's class struggle due to economic problems, Adam also did class struggle because he wanted to meet the woman he liked, Edeen Moore. Where the rules are they may not unite or make various kinds of contacts or have relationships because of differences in world origin namely Adam from the underworld and Edeen from the upper world. but Adam's struggle bore fruit in the end because of the effects of his persistence, he was able to unite these two different worlds and live happily with Edeen forever.

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