

MARXISM REPRESENTATION IN TWILIGHT MOVIE

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Abstract

This analysis trying to know social classes through the character inside Twilight movie by Stephanie Mayer. This paper used Karl Marx theory to help the researcher to understand more about marxism. According to Marx, several factors can effect social standings are wealth, race, gender, and character qualities. However many movie have other key aspects to differentiate one class from another. This paper used Qualitative Method. Stephanie Mayer uses social classes throughtout this movie using wealth, color, and other obscure characteristics to differentiate the classes. The result there are 3 classes identified in this movie such as Highest class, middle class and lowest class. The result of the discussion is that the researcher already classified the social class inside the character into 3 part, The Cullens and The Volturi as the highest class but The Cullens is the highest than The Volturi it is because their wealth are different, The Cullen is wealthy and The Volturi is not. Then The Human as the middle class it is because there are no wealthy human in this movie and human as the one who can be nomadic and the fact is Bella as the human dependent on vampires to survive and the last The Werewolves as the lowest class it is because in this movie The werewolves describe as secluded from the society, then being very animal alike then they live in reservation, poor and has darker skinned.

Key words: Marxism, social class, vampire, human, werewolf

INTRODUCTION

[1] stated that the term literature seems best if we limit it to the art of literature, that is, to imaginative literature. Literature is also produced by imagination of the author [2], [3]. Literature is not just a document of facts [4], it is not just the collection of real events though it may happen in the real life [5], [6]. Literature can create its own world as a product of the unlimited imagination [7], [8]. It can be concluded that literature is a work based on the imagination of the writer or a fiction work [9], [10]. The story can be inspired from the real life [11]. The real life can be close also to the social event [12], [13]. So, that many of the authors make their work with a background of social factors around them [14], [15]. The study that tries to focus on attention to the relationship between literature and social made by the authors of literary works is referred to as sociology of literature [16], [17]. The explanation was delivered by [18] stated that sociology of literature, by combining two different disciplines, sociology and literature, must be literally supported by two different concepts, namely the concepts of sociological concepts and literary

concepts [19], [20]. The problem that needs to be considered is its dominance in the analysis so that the intended purpose can be achieved optimally [21]. In the sociology of literature which should dominate the concepts related to literature [22], [23], while the concepts are related with sociology functioning as a complementary [24]. It will be even sharper if the researchers are more specific, so that the sociology of poetry, novel sociology, drama sociology, and so on [25]. The approach to literature that considers social aspects is called sociology of literature by using text analysis to determine its structure [26], [27], to then be used to understand deeper social phenomena that exist outside of literature [28].

Marxist approach to literature has relation to sociology of literature because this approach also talks about social system [29], [30]. This approach is based on the philosophy of Karl Marx [31]. He is a German philosopher and economist [32], [33]. This theory is related to the economic system, social system and political system [34]. This theory also conveys a gap between the capitalists and the proletariat or the upper classes with the lower classes [35], [36]. Karl Marx considers that capitalists raise money at the expense of the proletariat [37]. The conditions of the proletariat are very sad because they are forced to work long hours with minimum wages, while the fruits of their labor are only enjoyed by the capitalists [38], [39]. Many proletarians have to live in the suburbs and slums [40]. Marx argues that this problem arises because of the "private ownership" and control of wealth that is dominated by rich people [41]. To improve the welfare of the proletariat, Marx argues that capitalism is replaced with communism [42], [43]. If this condition continues, according to [44], the proletariat will rebel and demand justice [45], [46]. This is the basis of Marxism.

The writers consider that there is Marxism belief put it in the Twilight Movie. This movie is directed by Helen Catherine Hardwicke [47], [48]. The Twilight movie tells the story of Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) a new student who had just moved from a small town in America, Phoenix, Arizona, to a cold and often rainy city, Forks, Washington [49]. His mother remarries someone else and lets Bella stay with his father who works as a police officer in Forks [50], [51]. Bella is someone who is quiet, she doesn't really expect anything to change herself during her stay in Forks until the change finally happens after she meets a mysterious and very charming person, Edward Cullen (Robbert Pattinson) [52].

Edward and his family always hide their identity to the people around who are in Forks, more specifically at Bella's school [53]. Some students at school know the Cullen family as a cold family and never socialize with anyone. He hasn't lived since 1918 and he can't die. Edward is mysterious to make Bella curious until in the end he falls in love with Edward. The Cullens are visited by guests from other vampire families and they breathe fresh human blood near them. Edward must fight to save Bella [54], [55].

This sequel is an adaptation of Romeo and Juliet with an extraordinarily romantic love story that is also described as a true love story [56]. Settings that look more modern with effects that can attract attention, the struggle for love is actually forbidden and the fight between vampires and death [57], [58]. Beyond of those aspects, the writers got sample that show this movie include in Marxism [59], [60]. So, the writers will focus on analyzing Marxism in this movie. This topic is worthwhile to do in this research. There are two questions regarding to this topic. The first question is how the portrayal of Marxism in *Twilight* movie and How the movie applied Marxism in the story. In order to reveal the application of Marxism in this movie and anyone include in Marxism aspects.

This study is conducted under motivation by several previous studies that had been done by some researchers about *Twilight* movie itself and Marxism issues. First, previous study conducted by Evi Fitri Aglina entitled *A Study of Conversational Implicature Used in Twilight Movie 2008*. Second, this study entitled *Class Conflict in Film In Time: an analysis using Marxism Literary Criticism* conducted by Yударis Octian. The last study conducted by Yong Tang entitled *Avatar: a Marxist Saga on the Far Distant Planet*. Those studies help the writers to gain some knowledge about how the situation of the story and character in the movie described and how the film runs Marxism worldwide. Those really useful for the writers develop the ideas and analysis related to the Marxism in *Twilight* movie.

The writers use Karl Marx Theory in analyzing the data [61], [62]. Karl Marx was a philosopher in the 1800s [63], [64]. This theory is related to the economic system, social system and political system [65]. This theory also conveys a gap between the capitalists and the proletariat or the upper classes with the lower classes [66], [67]. He divided society into two classes which are the bourgeois or ruling class, and the proletariat, or

working class [68]. Marx did many researches related to the interactions between social classes and a work of literature [69], [70].

1. Class Struggle

Class struggle is the most common issues appeared in Marxism. Karl Marx thought that class struggle will never end. As what Karl Marx stated “The history of man is actually a history of class struggle.

The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild-master and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, a fight that each time ended, either in a revolutionary reconstitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes.

Proletarian-bourgeoisie relationship called as a relationship of conflict, the dominant-subordinate. Karl Marx stated that one day the proletariat will realize their common interests so that they unite and revolt.

2. Class and Status

There is a factor how the development of capitalism divides people into two classes, one who controls and owns the means of production (the bourgeoisie) and the other one who does not have the means of production (proletariat).

Class is a group of people who stand in a common relationship to the means of production - the means by which they gain a livelihood. Before the modern industry, the means of production consisted primarily of land and instruments used to tend crops or pastoral animals. In pre-industrial societies, therefore, the two main classes were those who owned the land (aristocrats, gentry or slaveholders) and those actively engaged in producing from it (serfs, slaves and free peasantry) (Giddens, 1991:210). Status refers to differences between social groups in the social honour or prestige they are accorded by others. Status distinctions often vary independently of class divisions, and social honour maybe either positive or negative. Positively privileged status groups include

any groupings of people who have high prestige in a given social order (Giddens, 1991:212).

From the statements the writers concluded people were divided by class and this made huge differentiation towards social behavior of people and how people see themselves at the society. Power distribution and wealth was considered as the major role of this classification.

3. False consciousness

False consciousness is more about a certain state of thinking that prevents a person from perceiving the true nature of their social situation.

There are, however, criteria such as a person's occupation or the amount of money he earns, which all can agree about, irrespective of their ideas about class in general or this or that person's position in particular. It might seem possible, then, to find a way of class quite objectively. But we all know that it is very often the case that whilst X's neighbours insist that X is working class, X obstinately considers himself to be middle-class. X's ideas (and his neighbours) cannot be ignored, because they affect their behaviour. He is more likely, for instance, to associate with people he regards as middle-class, follow middle-class patterns of recreation, try to use middle-class accent, have middle-class ambitions for his children, etc. His subjective perception of his class position cannot, therefore, be simply written as 'wrong' or - more sophisticatedly - as 'false consciousness'.

It can be understood that the Proletariat has a false consciousness because their condition is oppressed and ruled by the bourgeoisie. They often do not know that they have been oppressed so far by the authorities or the one who has power. False consciousness makes them forget that they are mentally blinded to free themselves from the oppression of the ruling class.

METHOD

One of the important ways in accomplishing the research and to support the finding process during the analysis is using the method. This chapter contains the methodology of research and describes the method of research, the source of data, the data samples, the techniques of collecting data, and the techniques of analyzing the data.

3.1. Research Design

In analyzing this study, the writers used descriptive with a qualitative approach. Descriptive research is a method of research which trying to picture out and interprets the object as in the fact. So, in this research descriptive research was conducted to describe systematically the fact and characteristic of the object or subject accurately.

3.2. Data and Data Sources

Data are a representation of facts, concepts, or instruction in a formalized manner suitable for communication, interpretation or processing by human or by automatic means. Based on the statement above, data are to help the writer to answer, analyze, and collecting the discussion. Data are a collection of facts that are taken from a data source that is related to the topic. The data that the writers got from this research were including dialogue in movie. A data source is a place where the data are taken. Data was used in this study comes from a movie entitled *Twilight* movie directed byHelen Catherine Hardwicke.

3.3 Data Collecting Techniques

There some steps in collecting the data:

1. Watching *Twilight* movie is to understand and find the issue has been chosen.
2. Collecting the data by seeing the action, tone and dialogues which are related to the representation of Marxism in the movie. The writers take note of some significant point data to be analyzed.
3. The data will be classified and categorized in a form of a table to make it easy to classify the issue of the representation Marxism in *Twilight* Movie.

3.4 Data Analyzing Techniques

In analyzing the data, the writers used some steps as follow;

1. Selection data

This stage, the writers classified and separated the data based on its relation to the portrayal of the Marxism.

2. Interpretation Stage

This stage, some of the comprehensive interpretations were done by *Twilight* Movie toward the action, tone and the dialogues in the movie.

3. Analyzing Stage

The writers analyze the significant data based on the selected theories and methods that the writer has chosen.

4. Evaluation Stage

This stage, the writers evaluate the result of analyzing, whether it has already relevant to the theories and the problem. The writer does some double check to make the result comprehensive and relevance.

5. Concluding Stage

All the stages are rechecked, the writers conclude the analysis to be the conclusion of this research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to Karl Marx, in social class there are 3 classes Highest Class, Middle Class and Lowest Class. In this research, the researcher would discuss those classes in Stephen Meyer uses social classes throughout her literary work Twilight Novel adopted into movie using wealth, color, and other obscure characteristics to differentiate the classes. In this result the researcher discuss social classes by Karl Marx they are Upper class or highest class, middle class and lower class.

1. Upper class or highest class refers to the very wealthiest and powerful people in society, this often the very top percentage of the population. They also sometimes connected to politics and includes anyone in the aristocracy or nobility. (Aristocracy -The aristocracy represents the high class of society).

2. Middle class on the other hand is a little trickier. It includes people who work in high status, secure and stable jobs, like doctors and lawyers and the people who own their own homes. (Bourgeoisie-The Bourgeoisie is the middle class group on the social hierarchy).

3. Lower class or working class refers to those who have to work in order to to survive. They don't have many savings and may even be in debt, and have low wage and insecure jobs.

Stephenie Meyer separated the characters in Twilight into social classes. Where the Cullens' vampire family represents the ultra-white upper class. Bella represents the white, working class and Jacob as werewolves a Native American, part of the Quileutes tribe, represents the lower class. In Twilight movie The Cullens or Vampire define as the upper

class . The cullens and the Volturi in a high class status but actually The Cullens is more Highest than The Volturi. What makes a Vampire represent as Upper class. It can be seen from this Criteria in each characteristics below;

- **The Cullens**

In this Movie, The Cullens Family represent as the highest class, it can be seen by their traits include:

The wealthiest : In Twilight, car is also another representation of people's social classes. When Bella said "I was glad to see that most of the cars were older like mine, nothing flashy" , "At home I'd lived in one of the few lower income neighborhoods that were included in the Paradise Valley District. It was a common thing to see a new Mercedes or Porsche in the student lot" This dialogue represent her as the working class in the town. Bella and other could not afford to buy a very expensive car or even a fine price new car, they were all driving a car that is old like Bella's. this can show the wealth of The Cullens which can represent them as upper class.

Pale skin : when Bella's Friend said "Everyone of them was chalky pale. Paler than me, the albino" This shows how the color of the characters' skin plays into the class, and since the Cullens are the palest, they are the highest. "Their characters are contrasted using various binaries that equate Edward with whiteness (and it's associations with civility, wealth, and intellect)". "Edward is constructed as a white, godlike vampire, and the color white is associated with purity, beauty, and heroism" "They are able to stay in their mansion and out of the sun". Another things that makes them looks in upper class is **Immortal, Beautiful, Conquered their instincts, Superhuman (6th sense) and Superior to everyone in Twilight.**

- **The Volturi as the Second in highest class below The Cullens**

The things that show they are as the highest class is **Animalistics, Nomadic, Not wealthy** it is because they are opposite with the Cullens that make them identified as the second in Highest class in this movie. They also **Hunt humans, Immortal, Superhuman (6th sense), Pale skin, Unable to catch the cullens** when "He'll track you. The woman will follow the truck. We should be able to leave with Bella after that" This shows how the Cullens are superior to the Volturi, but the Volturi are able to conquer humans.

- **The Humans as the Middle Class**

Not wealthy : in this movie the things that makes human here detected as not wealthy it is because they did not have something like what The Cullen has. Like the explanation before car is also another representation of people's social classes. When bella said "I was glad to see that most of the cars were older like mine, nothing flashy" , "At home I'd lived in one of the few lower income neighborhoods that were included in the Paradise Valley District. It was a common thing to see a new Mercedes or Porsche in the student lot" This dialogue represent her as the working class in the town. Bella and other could not afford to buy a very expensive car or even a fine price new car, they were all driving a car that is old like Bella's. This can show the wealth of The Cullens which can represent them as upper class.

Mortal : in this movie The Cullen and The Volturi represent as a Vampire the one who have Immortal soul, opposite with humans, they has limited time to live that Vampire.

White but not pale : Bella's physical traits are those similar to the Cullen's. She has the white pale skin and beauty to represent the higher social class. Therefore, she receives some of the "white privilege". Bella financially however, is more in line with Jacob and the other Quileute Indians or Werewolves. She has an average car and lives in an average house. "Bella, though she has white skin privilege, is economically more in line with Jacob. Referring to the "scarcity of my funds" to her dad's small two bedroom house with its "shabby" chairs and lack of dishwasher."

Another example that shows human in this movie as the middle class is human **can be nomadic** : it shows when renee moves around frequently and bella moves from phoenix to forks. Beside that Bella is dependent on vampires to survive. She said "I wanted to reach out and touch him, but I was afraid he wouldn't like me to" This shows how humans are afraid of vampires and how they are beneath them as Bella is more concerned about pleasing Edward than herself.

- **The Werewolves as the lower class**

Being very animal alike : with the indigenous, and is werewolf (act like animal), primitivism, and savagery

Secluded from society : In Twilight the wolves live without the pleasures of modern life. Even historically they are seen as being outdoor, meaning that the land and forests are their home

Live on a reservation (hints toward being Native American) : The wolves live with nature and use their body to survive. The vampires use their mind and culture to blend in for their infinite life spans.

Very poor : Colonizing the wolf section "We learn Jacob can be bribed easily, when he tells Bella that his dad offered him \$20 to come to the prom and warn her about the vampires". Knowing that Jacob wouldn't normally do something he found embarrassing, and then doing it for \$20 says something. It means that to Jacob \$20 could mean many more parts for his truck or for bikes, this embodies the fact that he is of lower class. Jacobs lack of clothing contributes to the Marxist approach to the lower class. Bella says, "Is it really so impossible to wear clothes, Jacob?". Because she is saying this, it makes you wonder if she is becoming to used to being around Edward and his family. Or that this is due to the fact that modern society is used to people wearing clothing and that those with a lack of it are abnormal. She says this because she is in the middle or working class, and is hanging around people of higher class.

Darkerst skinned

Dark Skin Native American Ever since Native Americans had their land taken from them, they have been considered lower class "Live Away from Society" They have to live on reservations in the forest. It's almost as if the forest is caging the lower class in. Poor Lack of wealth is obviously a requirement of the Proletariat.

CONCLUSION

The result of the discussion is that the researcher already classified the social class inside the character following the three part of social classes, The Cullens and The Volturi as the highest class but The Cullens is the highest than The Volturi it is because their wealth are different, The Cullen is wealthy and The Volturi is not. Beside that The Cullen has a Family which has Many Power that The Cullen. Then The Human as the middle class it is because there are no wealthy human in this movie the things that simple to represent the class is the car is also another representation of people's social classes. When bella said "I was glad to see that most of the cars were older like mine, nothing flashy" , "At home I'd lived in one of the few lower income neighborhoods that were included in the Paradise Valley District. It was a common thing to see a new Mercedes or Porsche in the student lot" This dialogue represent her as the working class in the town. Bella and other could not afford to buy a very expensive car or even a fine price new car, they were all driving a car

that is old like Bella's. this can show the wealth of The Cullens which can represent them as upper class. Human as the one who can be nomadic and the fact is Bella as the human dependent on vampires to survive and the last The Werewolves as the lowest class it is because in this movie The werewolves describe as secluded from the society, then being very animal alike then they live in reservation, poor it shows when Jacob will do anything just because Bella's Father give him a money and has darker skinned will represent them too as the lower class because they still keep their believe as the wolve to stay alive is nature without touching everything smells modernity,. The simple Conclusion in this Twilight movie , when read through a Marxist lens, the characters can easily be placed in a level of either a social or economic hierarchy. The author Stephanie Meyer uses a lot of symbolism to create the idea that white skin makes up the ideal sign for wealth and middle and the dark skin, makes up people as a lower class.

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