

**GREED FOR POWER OF LOUISE XIV IN RANDALL
WALLACE'S *MAN IN THE IRON MASK* MOVIE:**

AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH



Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for getting Bachelor Degree
in English Department

TITIS HAERLIANA

A 320 050 083

**FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA**

2009

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Novel is one of literary work which has contributed in making good film. Many directors try to realize novels into movie version. They want to make a film based on reader imagination and to illustrate it in visual image. There are many novels which are adapted to movie versions, such as, *Cinderella*, *Great Expectation*, *Harry Potter*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *the three musketeers*, *Pinocchio*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Memoirs of Geisha*, include *Man in the Iron Mask*.

By using a novel as the main material source, the film maker hopes the viewer has a big curious feeling to the film which is adopted from their favorite novel. *Man in the Iron Mask* for example, it is presented to the movie version by Randall Wallace as the director and uses Alexandre Dumas Père's novel with the same title. Before *Man in the Iron Mask*, Alexandre Dumas Père has been written "The Three Musketeers" in 19 century, and still in the same century then he wrote it. *Man in the Iron Mask* had been nearly twenty years since the last of Alexandre Dumas' novels about the fames Musketeers was translated to the big screen. Randall Wallace chooses Leonardo DiCaprio, Gabriel Byrne, Anne Parillaud, Jeremy Iron, John Malkovich, and Gerard Dipardieu to play their role. Leonardo DiCaprio as the twin, Louis XIV and Phillipe, Anne Parillaud as Queen mother Ann, Jeremy Iron as Aramis, John

Malkovich as Athos and Gerard Depardeau as Porthos. *Man in the Iron Mask* was released on March 13, 1998 in United States. The location of making this film is in France; Studios D'Arpajan saint – German – Lest – Arpajan France and it is produced in United States.

Man in the Iron Mask is a film which tells about the rebellion of the three musketeers, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis to the king, Louis XIV, in the name of France people. Although they have been retired, they will fight if they look something injustice. They are angry with the king because he is cruel, vicious and selfish. He just cares about himself and he is careless with his own people. He lets them starve by giving rotten foods. The former musketeers, Athos and Aramis also have personal problem with the king. It hurts for Athos to realize that his son Raoul (Peter Sarsgaard) is killed by Louis. The king sends Raoul in danger intentionally to get his fiancée, Christine (Judith Godreche) to be his mistress.

In other side, Aramis is surprised when the king asks him to kill the governor of the Jesuits, in fact that he is him. Porthos is the other former musketeer who feels his life is not useful anymore and bored with himself. He misses the time when he is still a musketeer. So, when Aramis offers a plan to replace the king, he accepts it directly. At least, he can still do something for France people in his old age. When the three musketeers agree to do the plan, D'artagnan - their good friend who is the captain of the musketeers and chief protector of the king - refuses it. He cannot betray the king. Whatever Louis he will defend him with his life. In the end of the story, it will be known the

reason why D'Artagnan is always in Louis' side. The truth is he is the Louis' father.

The plan is done without D'artagnan. The three musketeers, Athos, Porthos and Aramis try to release Phillippe (Leonardo DiCaprio) the king's twin from the prison and from the iron mask which he has used for 6 years. Actually Louis wants to kill him but a king cannot kill for his claim to power rested on the sanctity of royal blood. So he decides to keep Phillippe in the Iron mask which is made by himself. He prefers to hide Phillippe's face with it until he dies. He feels it can endanger his position as a king if everyone knows that he has twin.

After they pass a lot of intrigue, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis succeed to replace the king in masquerade ball, but it just for a moment, D'artagnan realizes something different of his king then he can fail Athos, Porthos, and Aramis' drama. In interrogation room, Louis tells the truth of Phillippe. D'artagnan does not believe when he knows that Anne (Anne Parillaud) has twins, it means he is not only Louis' father but also Phillippe's. One thing which makes him disappointed is Louis is still arrogant, he asks him to kill his best friend; Porthos, Athos, and Aramis and also bring back Phillippe to the prison and into the iron mask. His feeling as a father makes him choose the right decision, with the other musketeers Porthos, Athos and Aramis together they fight the king and save Phillippe, although he himself should die in Louis' hand. At the last part, Louis must pay his mistakes in the prison and wear the

iron mask. Then Phillippe replace his brother to lead France, and brings the people food, prosperity and peace.

Man in the Iron Mask gets its success at the time. The film which is only spent \$.35 million for the budget can stay at the summit of the United States box office for 4 months and get \$.56.954.719 in United States and \$.182.968.902 from the worldwide. Totally, it gets \$204.923.621 gross. *Man in the Iron Mask* which takes 132 minutes is containing an Action/adventure, drama and adaptation genres that make the story more interesting. To follow up the successful of the film, it was released the DVD format On February 1st, 2000 and it became best seller at that time, it was sold 10.198 in DVD.

From the profit which it gets, it looks the good acceptances from the market. It does not come from the market only but also from the film experts who give their good comment. They said *Man in the Iron Mask* is a film which has a lot of good stars. DiCaprio one of the actors can play in dual role beautifully. He does a good job of portraying both evil king and his virtual twin. Beside Leonardo Di Caprio it is also supported with big names Irons, Malkovich, Depardeau, and Byrne who have charisma. This film also makes the audience like living at French at that time. *Man in the Iron Mask* wins in 3 categories and 2 nominated. First, in 1998 it won Bogey in Germany, second, in 1999 it won in Razzie Awards with Worst Screen Couple category for Leonardo Dicaprio as twins, third, still in the same year it also won ASCAP Award with top box office films category, fourth, in 1998 Gerard Depardieu was nominated on outstanding European achievement world cinema category

of European Movie Awards, and the last, in 1999 it was nominated CDG (Costume Designers Guilds) Awards with excellent costume design for film category (<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0120744/awards>). After it is voted by 114 customers, it results; 45 customers give 5 stars, 35 customers give 4 stars, 17 customers give 3 stars, 6 customers give 2 stars, and 11 customers give 1 star. From this vote we can conclude that *Man in the Iron Mask* is not a disappointing film. We still get something entertaining from this.

Beside getting any good comments, *Man in the Iron Mask* also gets criticism from the viewer. It is protested by Christians because it puts the sexual intercourse too much just for the heck of it. It gives a bigger impact if all Christians would do trashy part everytime. *Man in the Iron Mask* is having arcs characters, blunt motivations, and inevitable act redemption.

The accent of each actor also gets attention from the viewer. The Examiner Movie Critics, Barbara Shulgasser gives a comment about it especially for Leonardo Di Caprio who gets more attention from her. She thinks every character of this movie must learn how people speak in that era. She told, "Why Di Caprio can't learn to say "Aramis" rather that "air-a-mus". Why can't he learn to pronounce the name of one of his characters, "pheeleep" rather that "pha-leep"??". In some of people, *Man in the Iron Mask* has not specialty to make it the best from the other films. As a debut director, Randall Wallace brings nothing unique to the table cinematically; picture a high school play enacted on Masterpiece Theater.

Man in the Iron Mask is an interesting movie; there are at least four appeals that we can enjoy in this movie. *First* is the setting. The film's authenticity and visual presentation are as glorious in the decadent luxury surrounding the King of France as grotesque in the terrible place occupied by the *Man in the Iron Mask*. The filmmaker brings the great palace of Versailles to life with elegance and finesse. The beauty of the gardens defies verbal explanation.

Second is the visualization. It gives the audience a beautiful and epic music, and the motion picture is done with pride and conviction. The film, however, is not exactly faithful when it comes to historical facts. It has been created for pleasant entertainment purposes. Louis XIV of France, whose great prestige earns him the title of 'the Sun King', rules France in one of its most brilliant periods and remains the symbol of absolute monarchy of the classic age.

Third, the plot is unpredictable. When the audiences watch it at the beginning part, maybe most of them have the same question, why does D'Artagnan wants to give all his life in saving Louis, even he is a cruel king?? We will surprise the reason why D'Artagnan does that, the fact, he is Louise' father. And also in the middle part when the audiences know that the *Man in the Iron Mask* is the twin of Louis who is kept imprison by himself then he changes him to be a king and leads France without anybody knows the truth that he is not Louis.

The Last is the character of each actor which is played beautifully. Especially, Leonardo DiCaprio who gets praises from almost viewers. He can play in dual roles. He can show the differences of character between Louise and Philippe perfectly. He is ambitious, cruel, and selfish as Louise then he becomes very wise, gentle, and calm as Philippe.

Research on Louis characteristic is very exciting. He is a picture of a king who is really greedy for power. Louis has purpose to reach his superiority whether he uses the wrong way. He imagines how he can reach it so his life becomes very perfect without disturb from somebody else. Unfortunately his ambition is just a fiction.

Based on the reason above, the writer will research this movie by using fictional finalism theory by Alfred Adler. Thus, the writer constructs the title **“The Greed for Power of Louis XIV in Randall Wallace’s *Man in the Iron Mask* Movie: Individual Psychological Approach”**.

B. Literature Review

Man in the Iron Mask is available in two version, film and novel. Both are never analyzed at least by UGM or UNS’ students. The novel version has been ever analyzed by student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta; Emmy Pudji Indarwati (2000) who analyzed how the major character solved his inner conflict based on the structural elements and analyzed the novel based on the psychoanalytic analysis.

In her research, she found, the outcome of the study shows that the problem faced by the major character causes the conflict of his mental condition. It brings him to moral anxiety that influences his personality. Finally, the change of personality makes him suffer in the end. To make it different, the writer would like to analyze the film version with different perspective, which is individual psychological approach and focuses on fictional finalism of Louis XIV as a major character which is reflected in this movie.

C. Problem Statement

After analyzing the explanation above, the writer can formulate the problem statement as follow; how greed for power of Louise XIV is reflected in this movie.

D. Limitation of the Study

To carry out the study, the writer needs to limit the study. The writer is going to analyze the greed for power of Louise XIV as the major character in *Man in the Iron Mask* movie based on fictional finalism in individual psychological approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem that has been stated above, the writer states the following objectives:

1. To analyze the structural element of *Man in the Iron Mask* movie.
2. To analyze the greed for power of Louise XIV as a major character of *Man in the Iron Mask* movie based on fictional finalism in an individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study of *Man in the Iron Mask* movie which is based on an individual psychological approach has two benefits, they are:

1. To give some contribution or understanding of the *Man in the Iron Mask* movie especially by an individual psychological approach.
2. To improve the researcher's understanding and competence in applying an individual psychological approach.

G. Research method

1) Object of the study

The researcher takes *Man in the Iron Mask* film as the object of the study. The movie is directed by Randall Wallace released in 2004.

2) Type of the data and data source

The researcher here uses qualitative. This is a library research, which takes the source of the data from words and other writing. The writer divides the data source into two categories:

a. Primary data source

The primary data is taken from *Man in the Iron Mask* movie CD and the script which is downloaded from: <http://www.script-orama.com/movie-script/c/>

b. Secondary data source

The secondary data source is taken from other sources, which are related to the primary data such as biography of the director, some books of psychology, website about the film and another data related to this film.

3) Technique of Data Collection

a. Observation

The data is taken by watching *Man in the Iron Mask* movie in order to understand about the movie.

b. literary research

The data are collected from the books that are related to the topic.

4) Technique and Data analysis

The researcher uses two techniques in analyzing the data:

a. Analyzing the structural elements of the film including narrative and technical elements.

b. Analyzing the greed of power of the main character using descriptive qualitative analysis.

H. Research Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, and benefit of the study. The second chapter deals with the theoretical approach. It is including the notion of humanistic psychology and theory of humanistic psychology; the hierarchy of needs, and structural element of the film. The third chapter is research method; object of the study, type of the data and data source, type of the study, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. The fourth chapter is research finding and discussion and the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion. The last chapter of this paper is bibliography and virtual references.