

**STRUGGLE FOR BETTER LIFE IN WAYNE WANG'S
MAID IN MANHATTAN MOVIE:
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

GALUH PURBOSANTI

A320 050 059

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING & EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA**

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Life in simple condition always arises in people's life. This condition occurs to show the human's problem and every human being wants to get a better life in his or her future. In addition, it shows that people never feel satisfied with what they have got. Therefore, they will do anything to have something that will belong to them forever. It means by having such things, for example, an occupation, the society will give a high respect. In addition, the wage that they receive could make them richer than their previous condition. Then, to make their dream comes true they begin to arrange the better way to fulfill their wish. They do not care whether it is right or wrong. When someone has the goal to reach his obsession, he needs internal motivation in order to reach his dream. Sometimes, in reaching his dream, someone has weaknesses. In solving his weaknesses, he needs to be more aggressive in order to achieve the perfect life. This condition makes someone unconfident; therefore, he struggles to leave it through the hard efforts. For example, one who is not clever, and never gets a good mark tries to study hard until he gets the good mark. Someone who lives in poverty works hard to get much money. He tries to manage it well until his condition change, to be rich person. In other case, someone who is not famous tries to look for the fame by showing his potency to his/her environment. In addition, every human will

make any efforts in order to reach their dream. Consequently, the efforts of someone can influence his behavior.

Maid in Manhattan is a movie written by John Hughes and Kevin Wade. It is directed by Wayne Wang, and produced by Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas, Paul Schiff and Deborah Schindler. Distributor of this movie is a Sony Pictures Entertainment. It was released on December 13, 2002 in the United States. This movie is about 105 minutes run time. The genre of this movie is romantic comedy. These movies are performed by Jennifer Lopez as Marisa Ventura, Ralph Fiennes as Christopher Marshall, Tyler Posey as Ty Ventura, Natasha Richardson as Caroline Lane, Stanley Tucci as Jerry Siegel and more cast.

This movie tells about Marisa Ventura, a struggling single mother, who tries to get by with her young son Ty by working as a maid for a hotel. When not in school, Ty spends time among Marisa's fellow hotel workers, most of whom treat the pair as family. Marisa hopes someday she is promoted to management.

While Marisa and fellow maid Stephanie are cleaning the room of socialite Caroline Lane, Stephanie convinces Marisa to try on a coat that Caroline had previously asked be returned to the store, arguing that it "technically" doesn't belong to anyone at the moment. Elsewhere in the hotel, Ty befriends hotel guest and senatorial candidate Christopher Marshall; Ty wants to go with Chris to walk his dog and the pair go to Caroline Lane's room to ask Marisa for permission. Chris meets Marisa, who is wearing the

fancy coat, and assumes that she is Caroline Lane. The trio spends some time together in the park. Though Marisa and Chris are attracted to each other, Marisa is terrified that management will find out about the ruse and makes it a point to avoid Chris afterward.

Chris asks the hotel's head butler Lionel Bloch to invite "Caroline Lane" to lunch, but he is confused when the real Caroline shows up instead of Marisa (ironically, Marisa was present when she received the invitation, and even offered Caroline some advice on what to wear to the date). Chris asks his assistant Jerry Siegal to find "the other Caroline Lane", promising that he will attend an important dinner if she will go with him, Jerry asks Lionel to find her. Lionel, who has figured out that Marisa is the woman Chris has been looking for, tells her to go to the dinner and end the affair swiftly if she wants to keep her possible future in hotel management intact. He and the hotel's staff assist her in preparing for the fancy dress affair, styling her hair and loaning her a fancy dress and a spectacular necklace.

Marisa attends the dinner and attempts to do as Lionel instructed her, but Chris stops her from leaving and the pair spends the night together in his hotel room. Marisa sneaks out the next day but is seen by Caroline, who informs hotel management. The truth is revealed, and Marisa is fired from the hotel. Chris tries to get the whole story out of Marisa, but she refuses to speak to him, claiming that he wouldn't have noticed her if she had been in her maid uniform.

Some time later, Marisa has obtained a job at another hotel. Ty attends one of Chris' press conferences and asks him whether people should be forgiven if they make mistakes. Chris responds in the affirmative and Ty leads him to the hotel Marisa is now working at. Chris and Marisa are reunited. The film ends with images showing that Chris has been elected, he and Marisa have married, Marisa has started her own hospitality business, and Marisa's maid friends have been promoted to management (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maid_in_Manhattan).

The film has some nominated awards, and for the examples are Image award for Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture Jennifer Lopez in 2003, Blimp Award for Favorite Movie Actress Jennifer Lopez in 2003, Razzie Award for Worst Actress Jennifer Lopez Also for Enough (2002/I) and Choice Movie Actress – Comedy Jennifer Lopez in 2003, Teen Choice Award for Choice Movie Liar Jennifer Lopez and Choice Movie Liplock Jennifer Lopez and Ralph Fiennes in 2003, Young Artist Award for Best Family Feature Film – Comedy in 2003. ([Http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252076/awards](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252076/awards)).

Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to analyze the *Maid in Manhattan* movie entitled “Struggle for better life in Wayne Wang’s *Maid in Manhattan* movie: An Individual Psychological Approach.”

B. Literary Review

After looking for several literature reviews in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, the writer has not found the research about Wayne Wang's *Maid in Manhattan* done by the other researchers. Here, the writer will analyze Wayne Wang's *Maid in Manhattan* focusing on struggle for better life by using Individual Psychological Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is how Marisa Ventura's struggles to get a better life are reflected in *Maid in Manhattan* movie.

D. Limitation of the Study

The study only analyzes how Marisa Ventura's struggle to get a better life in *Maid in Manhattan* viewed from the individual psychological perspective. It is as a means of analysis with consideration that Marisa Ventura's psychological development is influenced by the struggle to get a better life in her life.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement mentioned above the researcher has the following objectives:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements.

2. To analyze Marisa Ventura's struggles to get a better life in *Maid in Manhattan* movie viewed on Individual Psychological Approach.

F. Benefit of The Study

The benefits expected from this study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefits:

To give additional information and give contribution the larger body of knowledge particularly studies in *Maid in Manhattan* movie by Wayne Wang.

2. Practical Benefits:

To give deeper understanding for the writer self about *Maid in Manhattan* movie based on Individual Psychological Approach.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

This study is a qualitative study which takes the sources data from words and other written text.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study of the research is how the major character reaches a better life for her life in *Maid in Manhattan* movie.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

These studies consist of two data sources:

a. Primary data source

The primary data source is the movie it self; *Maid in Manhattan* by Wayne Wang.

b. Secondary data source

The secondary data sources are from the article, internet, book and references which are relevant with this study.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The methods of collecting data are as follows:

- a. Select the movie which will be researched.
- b. Watching and comprehending the movie.
- c. Choose the approach which suitable of the movie.
- d. Coding the data.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer uses descriptive technique. It is used to describe the elements of the play to understand the movie.

H. Paper Organization

This study consists of five chapters. It begins with first chapter, the introduction that comprises the background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method and paper organization. The

second chapter presents the underlying theory and theoretical application. The third chapter presents the structural analysis of the play, which involves the character and characterization, plot, setting, theme and style. The fourth chapter presents individual psychological analysis and its application in analyzing Wayne Wang's *Maid in Manhattan*. The fifth chapter deals with conclusion and suggestion for this study.