

**OPPRESSION AGAINST WOMEN IN ADRIENNE SHELLY'S
WAITRESS (2007): A FEMINIST APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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By

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Waitress is a drama movie that was directed by Adrienne Shelley and written in this movie the same name by Adrienne Shelley. The producer of this movie is Michel Roiff. This movie was released on May 25th 2007 by Fox Searchlight Pictures with the duration 104 minutes. This movie production is gaining price for about US \$ 18,699,775. The major character in this movie is Jenna, she works as waitress.

Adrienne Shelly was born on June 24th 1996 in Queens New York. She was an American actress, director, and screenwriter. She had two brothers, jeff and Mark. Her beginning performance when she was Stage door of Manor Performing in Arts Training Center. She made her professional debut in a Summer Production of the musical. She was a student at Jericho High School in Jericho New York. She went to Boston University to join with movie production, but she moved to Manhattan.

Jenna is a worker in the Joe's Pie Shop. She works as waitress, but her salary is always asked by her husband, his name is Earl. She always obeys her husband's instruction. Her friends are Becky, Dawn, and Joe. They are waitress and waiter in Joe's Pie Shop. One day Jenna asks money to her husband to join pie contest and gets a \$25,000 grand prize. Her husband does not give money and permission to her, but she hides her money from her husband to join in pie competition. In this movie, she is pregnant, but she does

not want to tell about her pregnant, she afraid to tell her husband. One day, Jenna met her new Doctor, his is Jim Pomatter. A long time, Jenna begin in love with Pommatter. They are having affair. Jenna went to Pommatter's house, they love each other.

Jenna begins to keep a diary for her unborn child. She gives the viewer accessed to her thoughts about that future of her child and her own plans. She describes the various pies, then she creates the audience gets to know her evolving hopes and dreams, concerns and fears, and slowly growing attachment to the baby where she at first did not want.

After giving birth, Jenna gives name to the baby girl named Lulu. Earl is clearly disappointed to the baby and witnessing that bonding. He reminds Jenna of a promise. He has forced her to make Jenna not to love the baby. Jenna remembers an envelope that Joe brings to her before the birth. When she finds that her husband admitted as a patient in the same hospital.

In the envelope she finds a handmade card with a sketch of her, a check for \$270,450, and a message of friendship that urged her to start her new life. Finally, Jenna wins the pie contest, and becomes the new owner of the "Diner Pie Shop" where she worked, then the shop is named Lulu's Pies.

This movie gets negative and positive reviews from society. First, positive review is Lucky coming from United States said that this movie is great movie because Keri Russel's character makes him think of someone. Then he also says that the major character is good talented, and kind hearted person, who seemed to be put in a life that they do not deserve. Second, Marry from Texas

said that he likes this movie because feminism sometimes gives the impression that what a woman does is not wrong as long as its pursued with grace.

Third, Brinah from Canada says that she likes this movie because it is so sweet, when Jenna is making a pie with Lulu and then they walk away, and the shop is now called "Lulu's Pies. This film also gets negative reviews from society, for example Jeffer From United States says: I hate the way this movie ended because even though its wrong. (The internet Movie Database, 2008).

Waitress movie also gets a great appreciation from International society. It gets some nominations from the Industry Events and Special Interest Events in USA.

In 2008, Ensemble Cast won best performance in Chlotrudis Award. Chlotrudis Award also nominated Adrienne Shelley as Best Supporting Actress. Furthermore, in 2007, Humanitas Prize nominated Adrienne Shelly in Sundance Film Category. Then, in 2008, She gets nomination from Independent Spirit Award as Best Screenplay.

In 2008, this movie got two nominations in two different events, Newport Beach Film Festival and Sarasota Film Festival. Newport Beach Film Festival nominated Nathan Fillion as Best Features and nominated Nathan Fillion as Best Acting. Then, Sarasota Film Festival also nominated Adrienne Shelly Jury Prize Award as Best Narrative Feature.

The story is occurred in the real life, so it makes this movie so interesting to be watched. There are some reason why this movie is very interesting. The first reason is the major character Jenna, she works as waitress in Joe's Pie

Shop. The second reason is her salary is always asked by her husband, the name is Earl. She always obeys her husband instruction.

The third reason is *Waitress* movie also gives knowledge about woman in the household for join competition and get the money. But her husband is not given money and permission to her, but she always hides her money from her husband to join pie competition. The fourth, this movie gets a great appreciation from international society, gets many nomination and award.

Finally, the main goal here is Oppression against women in the household, namely Jenna. That is why, the writer uses **OPPRESSION AGAINST WOMEN IN ADRIENNE SHELLY WAITRESS (2007): A FEMINIST APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

In this research, the writer did not find the research regarding the Marxist feminist approach in *Waitress* movie. In the contrary, the writer found two sources in the article.

The first is an article written by Connie Ogle entitled *Waitress*, on May 10th 2007 Los Angles, America. She says that Jenna “Keri Russell” is trapped in an unhappy marriage. She wants a baby. She discovers her pregnant.

The second is an article written by David Verguson on May 2th May 2007 from Dallas, Texas. He says that Jenna is unhappily married, and hoping to win a pie contest, with the prize money. Jenna wins the pie contest and becomes the

new owner of the “Diner Pie Shop” where she works, then she is called Lulu's Pies.

Different from two previous studies, this research focuses of the title **OPPRESSION AGAINST WOMEN IN ADRIENNE SHELLY WAITRESS (2007): A FEMINIST APPROACH.**

C. Research Problem

The problem of the study is “how the oppression against women is reflected in Adrienne Shelly *Waitress* (2007)”.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer will focus on the oppression against women in the household as major character in *Waitress* movie.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of study are described as follows:

1. To analyze the film based on its structural element.
2. To analyze the film based on the Marxist Feminist.

F. Benefit of the Study

There are two benefits expected of the study:

1. Theoretical benefit

To give contribution to the larger body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on *Waitress* movie.

2. Practical benefit

To enrich the writer's knowledge and experience dealing with Marxist Feminism.

G. Research Method

To analyze the data in this movie, the writer uses the qualitative method in this study.

1. Object of the Study

The researcher takes a *Waitress* movie as the object of the study.

2. Type of Data and Data Source

In this study, the writer uses two sources of data. They are:

a. Primary Data Source:

The primary data are taken from a movie entitles *Waitress* which was released on 2007 and directed Adrienne Shelly and written by Adrienne Shelly. This film was produced by Fox Searchlight Pictures.

b. Secondary Data Source:

The writer takes the secondary data source, including the scrip of the movie and other information from book and website from internet that were relevant to the subject matter.

3. Technique of Data Collection

The technique of the data collection in this study takes the following steps to the data analysis.

- a. The writer views the movie several times until the writer understands an information or data to be analyzed.
- b. Reading some other resources related to the movie.
- c. Reading the script of the movie.
- d. Finding out the important data.
- e. Developing the data that are provided.

4. Technique of Data Analysis.

In analyzing the data, the writer will employ the descriptive analysis on the author and his work than the structural analysis of the work and the finally the Marxist Feminism analysis of the literary work. The steps are follows:

- a. Classifying the data.
- b. Verifying the data.
- c. Interpreting the data based on underlying theories.

H. Paper Organization.

Research paper organization is divided into six chapters. The first chapter is the introduction which consists of background of the study, literary review, research problem, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. The second chapter

is underlying theory, which consists of notion of feminist, Marxist feminism, the major principles, and theoretical application. The third chapter consists of social historical background in this movie. The fourth chapter consists of discussion, including of analysis based on structural elements. The fifth chapter consists of analysis based on the Marxist feminist. The last chapter is conclusion and suggestion. Then, appendix and bibliography is included after the last chapter.