

CLASS STRUGGLE IN *ALITA: BATTLE ANGEL* FILM

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to describe the classes struggle conducted by the five main characters of *Alita: Battle Angel* film (Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova) by using two theories of Tyson about social class and class struggle. The form of research design was qualitative with content analysis as its approach. Words in the forms of narrations and dialogues were the data of this research and taken from *Alita: Battle Angel* film script. The findings of this research showed three different social classes identified from the five main characters. (1) Dr. Ido, Alita, and Dr. Chiren were identified to come from the middle class. (2) Hugo was identified from the low class. (3) Nova was identified as the one from the upper class. Furthermore, the forms of class struggled conducted by each character was different. Yet, this finding did not apply to Dr. Ido character since he did not conduct any form of class struggle due to his desire of wanting to live in Iron City only. On one hand, for Alita, Dr. Chiren, and Hugo posed one similar strong reason of conducting their class struggle which was that to change their life condition into the better ones by living in Zalem. On the other hand, Nova's reason of conducting his class struggle because he wanted to defend the status quo as the highest leader of Zalem.

Keywords: marxism, class struggle, social class, characterization

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeksripsikan perjuangan kelas-kelas yang dilakukan oleh lima karakter utama dari film Alita: Battle Angel (yaitu Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, dan Nova) dengan menggunakan dua teori dari Tyson mengenai kelas sosial dan perjuangan kelas. Bentuk dari penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan analisa konten sebagai model pendekatannya. Kata-kata dalam bentuk narasi dan dialog merupakan data dari penelitian ini dan diambil dari skrip film Alita: Battle Angel. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan tiga bentuk kelas sosial yang berbeda diidentifikasi dari kelima karakter utama tersebut. (1) Dr. Ido, Alita, dan Dr. Chiren diidentifikasi sebagai karakter-karakter dari kelas menengah. (2) Hugo diidentifikasi sebagai karakter dari kelas bawah. (3) Nova diidentifikasi

sebagai karakter dari kelas atas. Lebih lanjut, usaha-usaha perjuangan kelas yang dilakukan masing-masing karakter berbeda satu sama lain. Akan tetapi, penemuan soal usaha perjuangan kelas tidak berlaku pada karakter Dr. Ido mengingat ia tidak melakukan usaha apapun sebagai bentuk perjuangan kelasnya dikarenakan karakter ini hanya memiliki keinginan untuk tinggal di Iron City. Di sisi lain, karakter Alita, Dr. Chiren, dan Hugo memiliki alasan kuat yang sama dalam melakukan perjuangan kelas mereka yaitu untuk mengubah kondisi hidup menjadi jauh lebih baik lagi dengan berjuang untuk bisa tinggal di Zalem. Selain itu, alasan karakter Nova melakukan perjuangan kelas miliknya yaitu untuk mempertahankan status quo sebagai pemimpin tertinggi di Zalem.

Kata Kunci: marxism, perjuangan kelas, kelas sosial, karakterisasi

A. INTRODUCTION

Class struggle is something commonly found and usually becomes the point that has a great influence in the socioeconomic society. According to Marxism theory, the differences in social economic class divide people into many perspectives which are more significant than differences in other aspects such as religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. Tyson states that the class struggle is the real battle lines are drawn, to put the matter simply, between the 'haves' and the 'have not' that happen between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie (54). Based on Tyson's statement, the class struggle is the differences in the social economic classes which divide people in many aspects and causes the battle line between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie about the 'have' and 'have not' things.

This research discussed about the representation of class struggle by different classes in *Alita: Battle Angel* film. The class struggle that appeared in *Alita: Battle Angel* film was greatly presented throughout the story. It was shown by the people of Iron City and Zalem. There were five selected characters to be analysed of their social class and class struggle as presented in *Alita: Battle Angel* film: Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova. Tyson's theory of socioeconomic class and class struggle were used to describe the representation of class struggle done by the people of Iron City and Zalem in *Alita: Battle Angel* film. Therefore, this research was entitled *Class Struggle in Alita: Battle Angle Film*.

B. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. CHARACTERIZATION

Characterization is a broad distinction frequently made between alternative methods for characterizing in order to establish the distinctive character of the person in a narrative by showing and telling. Applying characterization can be done through seeing the character's through acting and talking, to the show of their inner thoughts, feelings, and responsiveness to events (Abrams 34). There

are two kinds of characterization, direct and indirect. Direct characterization is the way by the writer to characterize the character in the story directly. Reams states that a direct statement about a character does not need to be stated more than once since it can be alluded to, certainly; his or her appearance and manner can be hinted in a small adjectives before and action (15).

On the other hand, indirect characterization is the way to characterize the character indirectly. It is everything the writer that does not state directly, but the audience understands the real meaning behind what the writer intends to say or deliver indirectly. According to Reams, indirect characterization is really a blanket term for many different way in which a feature of a character can be expressed and confirmed in the mind of the reader without stating it directly. Actions, reactions, thoughts, speech, and to a degree even the situation of the character can all be used to shape the image constructed in the reader's mind (30).

2. TYSON'S SOCIAL CLASS

In Marxism, class is a set or category in which an individual belongs to by seeing their socioeconomic lifestyle, material possessions, education, career, and financial establishment. It can be loosely categorized and refer to as under class, low class, middle class, upper class, and aristocracy class (Tyson 55).

a. Under Class

The under class refers to the people that are put in the very bottom of the socioeconomic class position. Their conditions are very poor and most likely included the homeless people and the one who may have very few, especially in term of material possessions. These people have a little hope of improvement in their life condition (Tyson 54). Under class also the one that are economically oppressed, as we can see from the previous discussion, that this class are most likely consisting of homeless people or the ones that have a very little of material possessions.

b. Low Class

The low class consists of poor people that have limited education and are struggling to support their family because of their career opportunities. They also are the one that living with fear of becoming homeless and financially unstable. They have a slightly better condition than the under class in which being categorized as the low class people (Tyson 54). Yet, both the under class and low class become the object to be economically oppressed (54). This definitely supported the previous discussion as even though the low class has a slightly better condition, they are still a part of the oppressed group in socioeconomic class.

c. Middle Class

The middle class is the class positioned in the middle of the socioeconomic class. Their socioeconomic lifestyle may indeed better than the previous two classes. However, they are still economically oppressed, but at the same time they

are also economically privileged. They do have good financial stability than the under and low classes, but they often hit hard by the economic recessions and still have reasons to worry about their financial future. The people that are categorized into this class may have benefits and privilege forms of security such as medical insurance, pensions plan, and other. However, they have an enormous and unfair tax burden related to their income (Tyson 55).

d. Upper Class

The upper class refers to the one that can afford two or more expensive houses, several cars, and luxury items (Tyson 55). This means that the upper class is a high class and better than the middle class as they can afford and have double or even multiples times of possessions and financial establishment more than the middle class could. The upper class is economically privileged and enjoys the luxurious lifestyle and of course is not really affected by the economic recessions as well as having not just the financial stability, but also financial security (55).

e. Aristocracy Class

The aristocracy class (aristocrats) is the highest in socioeconomic class. If the upper class may look like they have everything they need, then the aristocrats have way more than what the upper class has. They are the ones that own the means of production such as capital, factories, and raw materials and controls them. The most important characteristic of the aristocrats is that they have the nobility title to indicate their highest social status in society. Tyson describes them as the one that is extremely wealthy, as they are the owner of the well-established large corporation, for whom money such as mansions, limousines, personal airplanes, yachts, and other are easy for them to obtain and not becoming a problem at all (55).

3. TYSON'S CLASS STRUGGLE

Class struggle is one of the principles of Marxism. It is a clash of management and labor that sometimes simply refers to as a friction between socioeconomic classes. The dominant class uses its power to make the prevailing system seems to be the logical, natural one, in order to entrap the proletariat into holding the sense of identity and worth that the bourgeoisie wants them to hold, one that will allow the powerful to remain in control (Dobie 85).

According to Tyson, the bourgeoisie are the people in control of the world's natural, economic, and the human resources. Meanwhile, the proletariat are the majority of the global population that live in the substandard conditions and the ones who do the labors such as mining, factory works, ditch digging, railroad building, and basically doing the job that will make the riches become richer. Simply put, the proletariat are the ones that working themselves off to increase the coffer of the riches (Tyson 54). Marxism theory believes that because of this difference that greatly affecting both of bourgeoisie and especially, proletariat, then it will make the proletariat to develop the class consciousness to rise up in violent revolution against their oppressors (bourgeoisie) and create classless

society (54). In the class struggle, there are two points from Marxism needed to be reviewed and discussed to get a better understanding of class struggle regarding the bourgeoisie and proletariat sides.

First is the role of the structural in the society. The bourgeoisie is the owner of the property and the one with the proletariat as labor power determine whether the class conflict or struggle happen or not. If the bourgeoisie monopolies the proletariat, then the class conflict or struggle will happen (Tyson 54). Second is the fact that both bourgeoisie and proletariat have different interests. The bourgeoisie is conservative and want to defend their status quo. They also fight the changes that happen in the dominance of the structure. In the other side, the proletariat is progressive and they want to do anything for the better changes of better life. However, this class struggle at first does not happen because of the mere jealousy, but more to the fact that these two classes have different interests (54).

The form of oppression performed by the higher class, in this case is the bourgeoisie can vary in many ways, but mostly is abusing their power structure. It can be in the forms of the police and other government strong army agencies which of course, is under the government's (bourgeoisie) orders to mistreat the low class and under class (proletariat) such as arresting, beating, and even killing them. This can be perceived by the proletariat that the bourgeoisie is giving a threat to endanger them and can trigger the class struggling. This may can lead to the revolt of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie.

4. PREVIOUS STUDIES

The first previous research was entitled *Marxist Criticism on Disney Movie Cinderella* by Muhammad Faizal Hira (2017). He analysed about the ideologies which later caused the false consciousness in the film and also categorizing the characters into two different classes as proletariat and bourgeoisie. In his research, Hira found the social class in *Cinderella* and how the people struggled in order to achieve their goal of life, the process of the social system established in the movie, and the interaction and conflict between two opposing sides; the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. Hira also found out about the way the people and Cinderella that were blinded by their own false consciousness. Most importantly after analysing Marx's ideologies in *Cinderella*, Hira concluded that *Cinderella* movie showed the fact that people had to free themselves from the chains of class and lived a life like they wanted.

The second previous research was entitled *Class Conflict in Film In Time: An Analysis using Marxism Literary Criticism* by Yударis Octin (2015). Octin's research chose *In Time* film as the object to discuss about how the class conflict or class struggle happened in the film. He also analysed about the proletariat and bourgeois characters and emphasised on how this became the reason to make the revolution happened. Octin's research had two findings: (1) distinction of characteristic between the proletariat and bourgeoisie in the film as well as the class conflict that following the society's condition and also the reason of

occurrence of class conflict; (2) Sylvia Weiss's ambiguous class and determined her class as the proletariat in the end. He also found the motive and role of Sylvia Weiss to the revolution. Her motive was to bring justice to the society (both proletariat and bourgeoisie) and her role as the proletariat who started and conducted the revolution based on her own will.

C. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was included as a qualitative research which applying content analysis as the approach. This research was categorized as qualitative because it was used to observe the data that showed the class struggle based on Marxism theory in the five main characters of *Alita: Battle Angel* film. The research instrument was the researcher himself. The data needed in this research were words in forms of narrations and dialogues uttered by and related to the five main characters (Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova) of *Alita: Battle Angel* film. The film script of *Alita: Battle Angel* written by James Cameron and Laeta Kalogridis was the source of data needed. In collecting the data needed, the researcher performed two important steps such as watched *Alita: Battle Angel* film and took notes of the data needed by identifying which narrations and/or dialogues uttered and related to Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova that representing the class struggle based on Marxism theory as shown in the film script.

After collecting the data needed, the researcher started to analyse them by following the three steps of data analysis by Miles and Huberman. In data reduction, the researcher reduced some data that had been collected due to the fact that these collected data were lacking of strong proofs and indicators required based on Tyson's social class and class struggle theory. In data display, the researcher analysed the data to find out the states of social class from the five main characters in *Alita: Battle Angel* film by using Tyson's theory of social class. After obtaining the results, then the researcher continued to analyse the forms of class struggle conducted by each character using Tyson's theory of class struggle. In conclusion drawing, the researcher draw conclusions based on the findings analysis.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. FINDINGS

This research discussed about the way classes struggle performed by five main characters in *Alita: Battle Angel* film; Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova were being presented. The reason of the word 'class struggle' was turned into 'classes struggle' because this research was not only focusing on the way class struggle of these five characters done, but more to the fact of where these five's

social class came from. This meant that the classes struggle presented in the film were different to each character based on their social class' condition.

a. Dr. Ido's Social Class and His Class Struggle

Dr. Ido's social class itself was included as the middle class. This fact was based on his own statement when Alita asked him about the only way to reach to Zalem.

Data 1 min. 1:42:51

Dr. Ido : The only one way to get from the lower world to Zalem is to become the Final Champion. You can't buy your way up there.

Alita : But how do you know that for sure?

Dr. Ido : **I was born there. I've removed it myself, the Mark of Zalem. With our daughter's illness, Chiren and I were forced to descend here to Iron City.**

Dr. Ido clearly told Alita about his origin; the fact that he was included as the people of Zalem. This solely statement signified Dr. Ido's social class. For sure, he was not from the low class since this class did not exist in Zalem. The only two options left was either the middle class or upper class (regarding the fact that there was no aristocracy class in *Alita: Battle Angel* film). If Dr. Ido's social class was included as the upper class, then it would not be possible to have him and his wife descended to Iron City for the flaws of their daughter since the upper class was at the top of everything even in Zalem. Therefore, the most suitable option left was the fact that Dr. Ido's social class as the middle class.

The way to characterize Dr. Ido's social class in the data above was done through direct characterization. It was shown on his sentence of 'I was born there' which referred to his birth place as Zalem. Dr. Ido, through his own sentence, indicated the social class he belonged to as the middle class. This fact was uttered by himself through his own words.

Even if Dr. Ido's origin was from Zalem, yet he did not have any intention of going back there. He was never shown to have interest in struggling his life so that he could live in Zalem again. This fact definitely signified that Dr. Ido as a middle class person did not conduct any form of class struggle to live in Zalem. Dr. Ido's struggle (working as a Hunter-Warrior) was intended to survive living in Iron City and not so that he could climb back to live in Zalem.

b. Alita's Social Class and Her Class Struggle

After being rebuilt by Dr. Ido, Alita was curious to see how things looked, felt, and worked like in the Iron City as the place she lived her life now. Seeing how excited she was, Dr. Ido brought her along to the downtown while finishing his own business.

Data 4 min. 12:20

Alita : **Ido found me in the Scrapyard.**

- Hugo : The Scrapyard?
Alita : Mm-hmm.
Hugo : But that would mean... Hi, Doc. I got those driver-boards you were looking for.
Dr. Ido : **Alita is new here. She's still learning about things.**

Alita explained to Hugo the reason of her lacking of knowledge about Iron City was because she was just brought back to life. She told him that Dr. Ido was the one who brought her alive and at the moment, took care as her guide. Since she was being taken care of under Dr. Ido, then this fact itself meant that her social class obviously following to Dr. Ido's. Alita's social class was as the middle class. Alita also had a permanent place to stay in Dr. Ido's house which set her away from being categorized as homeless. Although Alita did not have money on her (at the moment), yet she did not have to worry about the basic needs such as food, clothes, or a proper place to stay since all of these needs were being taken care of Dr. Ido.

Alita's social class was being identified through the indirect characterization on her. At the time when Dr. Ido introduced her existence as someone new in the city to Hugo, this fact indirectly implied that she was being taken care of under Dr. Ido's household. This fact obviously claimed her social class as the middle class following to the state where she lived at the moment. Dr. Ido's statement that worked as the indirect characterization on Alita in finding out her social class as the middle class. Simply put, her characterization was seen through other character's action and words.

Unlike Dr. Ido who did not conduct any form class struggle to be able living in Zalem, Alita conducted her class struggle. It was was when she decided to become a Hunter-Warrior to get money and buy the so-called expensive ticket (there was a rumour that Vector sold tickets) to Zalem.

Data 5 min. 55:37

Factory Machine : State your business.

Alita : **I'm here to register as a Hunter-Warrior.**

Hugo : How'd it go? You're a Hunter-Warrior, all right.

Realising that she could do the ancient martial art of Panzer Kunst, Alita desired to take part in struggling up her social class. She wanted to go up to Zalem and be part of it. In order to do so, she had to obtain lots amount of money to buy her ticket up there. Hence, Alita decided to work as a Hunter-Warrior to get her payment from the works given by the Factory.

As being shown in the data above, Alita directly through her own words stated that she wanted to be a Hunter-Warrior (and had become one) to save up money so that she could go to Zalem. Here, it was clear the intention of Alita working as a Hunter-Warrior which became her form of class struggle. This

intention was directly uttered in her own words. Thus, the way to characterize Alita's form class struggle was through direct characterization.

c. Dr. Chiren's Social Class and Her Class Struggle

The state of Dr. Chiren's social class as the middle class was shown when she had her conversation with Dr. Ido. She told him that she wanted to go back living in Zalem and would do whatever it took to achieve this goal of her.

Data 8 min. 17:02

Dr. Chiren : I want us to be a team again. I have a great new setup and equipment worthy of your skills. **Together, we can build the finest champions this game has ever seen. Could be my ticket home.**

Dr. Ido : When are you going to realise there is no way back? It just does not happen.

Dr. Chiren : Vector can make it happen.

Dr. Ido : I can't believe you trust Vector.

Dr. Chiren : He has very high connections.

Dr. Ido : I won't help you build monsters.

Dr. Chiren : I'm gonna get back to Zalem somehow. I'll claw my way there with my bare hands if I have to.

Dr. Chiren clearly referred Zalem as home in the sentence of 'could be my ticket home.' This was the fact since she was actually the people of Zalem. Another proof to state Dr. Chiren's social class as middle class was by seeing how determined she was on her goal of going back to Zalem. This implied that Dr. Chiren did not have those worries of low and under classes people such as lacking of basic needs (proper food, clothes, permanent place to live) or financial stability. Since she had already obtained all of them, then she had the time to worry about struggling her way up to Zalem.

The way to emphasise Dr. Chiren's social class as the middle class was through the direct characterization. Dr. Chiren directly stated that she wanted to go back to Zalem and referred to Zalem as her 'home'. These two facts obviously signified that Dr. Chiren was from the middle class person. Otherwise, she would neither have said these facts nor somehow implied that she used to live there. The way to identify these two facts was by understanding the direct statement of Dr. Chiren when she had a conversation with Dr. Ido.

The class struggle that Dr. Chiren had determination with was to have connection to the people of Zalem. At the time when Nova (the highest leader of Zalem) offered her to work for him with the reward of coming back to Zalem, Dr. Chiren did not have even a slight hesitation.

Data 10 min. 40:26

- Vector (Nova) : You're a clever woman, Doctor. And determined to reach your goal at any cost. So I'll make you this offer. If and when you have pleased me I will grant you the destiny you seek.
- Dr. Chiren : **Zalem. You'll send me to Zalem?**
- Vector (Nova) : I'm there right now.
- Dr. Chiren : **Consider my services engaged.**

Dr. Chiren made a deal with Nova to get rid of a threat to Zalem which was Alita. As long as she could go back to Zalem and live a better life, she would do anything it required. Her deal with Nova signified the form of class struggle that she conducted. Her class struggle involved the cause of other people's pain so long as she could change her life into a better and appropriate one.

The way to characterize Dr. Chiren's form of class struggle as shown in the data above was being determined through the direct characterization. She was the one who utterly stated her form of class struggle. Dr. Chiren stated her willingness to work for Nova as long as she could go back to Zalem. This willingness of her that signified the form of class struggle that she conducted. She worked for Nova to do dirty works by harming other people. No one in the conversation of the data above who claimed the pledge to work for Nova, but herself.

d. Hugo's Social Class and His Class Struggle

Hugo was the only character whose origin from Iron City. Unlike Dr. Ido, Dr. Chiren, and Alita whose origin were from Zalem, Hugo never once experienced the life in Zalem which made his forms of class struggle were more determined comparing to the other characters (Dr. Ido, Dr. Chiren, and Alita who once lived in Iron City). This fact also set Hugo's social class to be the lowest among the characters.

Data 11 min. 23:59

Alita : I wonder what it's like up there.

Hugo : **Better than this dump down here. Listen. It's stuff from the Factory going up to Zalem. But, the tubes are just for the cargo, not for people. If I was as strong as you I'd climb that tube to Zalem right now.**

Hugo's social class was identified as low class regarding the fact that only this class that belonged to Iron City. Hugo described the condition of Iron City similar to a dump which made him wanting desperately to go up to Zalem. He stated that if he was as strong as Alita, he would have already climbed up his way to Zalem. The desperation in his sentence signified that he was being economically oppressed. He could not afford to have a better life due to his limited career opportunities that he could do in Iron City. This situation obviously affected his financial stability where he had no guarantee of it.

The way to identify Hugo's social class as the low class was done through direct characterization. This was being done by seeing him directly stated these two facts: (1) the condition of Iron City and (2) his desire to go up to Zalem by any means possible. Hugo described the condition of Iron City to be in the same level as a dump which signified that the social class existed within was only the people who lived in the dump. There was only the low class people. Therefore, he desired so much to go up to Zalem and lived a better life since there were only higher and better social classes up there. These things were obviously stated by Hugo.

Coming from the low class of Iron City had somehow built a strong desire to change that condition. Hugo desired so much to go up to Zalem to have a better life. Therefore, he chose to conduct his own class struggle by saving up money to buy a ticket to Zalem after doing works from Vector.

Data 13 min. 1:36:50

Zapan : Looks like your Hugo hasn't been entirely honest with you.

Alita : Is it true?

Hugo : Ali.. you don't understand. I never killed anyone. **We only jacked parts. We paralyzed them and stripped them, that's all. I needed the money for Zalem.**

Here, it was clear that Hugo struggled his way out to reach Zalem. He had to do crimes in order to buy his ticket to live a better life in Zalem. He took orders from Vector as the one whose social class was above him so that he could obtain more money.

At the moment when Hugo told the reason of him being a parts-jacker to Alita, it was when he directly confirming his form of class struggle. Hugo told Alita that he needed money to go to Zalem and therefore he needed ways to obtain it. The fact that Hugo worked as a parts-jacker, at the same time signified his form of class struggle and this fact was being directly uttered through his words of confession. Hence, the characterization performed to identify Hugo's form of class struggle was through direct characterization.

e. Nova's Social Class and His Class Struggle

The highest social class presented in *Alita: Battle Angel* film was the upper class. This social class was presented in the characterization of Nova character. Nova was the highest leader of Zalem who ruled over two cities left after The Fall war occurred over three hundred years ago, Iron City and Zalem.

Data 15 min. 39.21

Nova : **Do you like your job, Vector? If you like your position and the many comforts that come with it... I strongly suggest you listen to Dr. Chiren.**

Vector : Nova. My apologies.

To prove the social class of Nova as the highest class in the film, the fact was shown through his conversation with Vector. Remembered that Vector's social class was similar to Dr. Ido and Dr. Chiren as the middle class person which set this fact to state Nova's social class as the upper class.

Since Vector's social class was in the middle class and he worked for Nova, then the only state of social class left for Nova was either from the upper class or aristocracy class. Yet, Nova was not possible to come from the aristocracy class since there was none of this class existed in *Alita: Battle Angel* film. No character in the film that was described to have any noble title (since this matter is the most important indicator of aristocracy class). Thus, the only possible and suitable social class left for him who lived in Zalem was the upper class.

Another fact to be deciphered from Nova's conversation with Vector above to state his social class as the upper class was laid exactly on his words to Vector. Nova seemed to threaten Vector if he refused to follow Dr. Chiren's suggestion of fixing Grewishka. If Dr. Chiren fixed Grewishka, then he could be used to exterminate Alita that was seen as the potential threat in rising revolution movement to go against Zalem. If in the case that Nova did not have any sort of power as the upper class people, then he could not pose any threat to Vector. However, Nova was able to threat Vector and made him to behave accordingly to his social class as the middle class. Thus, it was clear that Nova's social class was the upper class.

The characterization done to state Nova's social class as the upper class was through direct characterization. Nova was the one who clearly performing the acts of giving order and threatening Vector in his conversation of the data above. Nova directly ordered Vector to follow Dr. Chiren's suggestion of fixing Grewishka so that Nova could use him to exterminate Alita. At the same time, Nova also threatened Vector that he could lose his position and job as the middle class if he refused to follow Nova's order. These acts were done and uttered by Nova on his words.

The form of class struggle performed by Nova was when he killed Hugo. Nova killed Hugo by setting on one of the traps attached to the tubes in Zalem. In an instant, Hugo's body was scattered into pieces after getting hit by the trap.

Data 17 min. 1:52:55
Alita : We could be free.
Hugo : Okay.
Alita : **No!**

Nova killed Hugo as his form of class struggle to defend his status quo ruling over Zalem and Iron City. He knew exactly that Hugo was one of the people that Alita held dear. Thus, he decided to destroy Alita indirectly (since he counted her as the potential threat that could disrupt the systems of Zalem and Iron City). By killing

Hugo, there were two messages delivered by him to Alita. The first was as his warning that Nova could cause any harm to Alita's beloved people, even to those who had nothing to do with their problems. While the second message posed his dare to Alita that he could exterminate her anytime.

Even though it was clear that Nova killed Hugo by using his own hands, yet the signifier to state this act was through Alita's word. Right at the moment when Alita screamed 'No', it was when Hugo got struck by Nova's trap. Since the signifier used to state Nova's second form of class struggle was through another character's dialogue, therefore the characterization performed was the indirect one.

2. DISCUSSION

The findings in this study showed the way classes struggle was different according to each character's social class state. There were three different classes appeared from the five selected of main characters in *Alita: Battle Angel* film. Dr. Ido, Dr. Chiren, and Alita characters were identified to have the middle class as their social class. Hugo character was identified to have the low class as his social class. While for Nova character was identified to have the upper class as his social class. The main reason to this was because Dr. Ido, Dr. Chiren, Alita, and Nova once had lived and still lived in Zalem, while Hugo was completely living his whole life in Iron City.

These characters also conducted their own forms of class struggle in order to raise and defend their quality of life. For the four characters (Dr. Chiren, Alita, Hugo, and Nova) were obsessed with the idea of living in Zalem. Yet, there was one character who did not conduct any form of class struggle which was Dr. Ido. The reason to this was because he only wanted to survive his life in Iron City and he did not pose any interest or desire to go back to Zalem.

The findings of this research posed some similarities and differences with the two previous research. The first previous research was entitled *Marxist Criticism on Disney Movie Cinderella* by Muhammad Faizal Hira. In his research, Hira discussed about the ideologies that caused the false consciousness and the types of class in *Cinderella* movie. The findings of his research showed that (1) the ideologies that caused false consciousness to the characters in *Cinderella* movie were the result of social system applied in their society and (2) there were two types of class in *Cinderella* movie as the bourgeoisie and the proletariat.

The similarity of findings between this research and Hira's research was shown in the fact that in every society, there would always appear the existence of two different class in which playing the role as ruling and ruled. In this research's case, the people of Iron City including Dr. Ido, Alita, Dr. Chiren, and Hugo were identified as the ruled class. Meanwhile, the people of Zalem, especially Nova as the highest leader of Zalem was identified as the ruler class. In Hira's research, this condition was being portrayed as the existence of bourgeoisie as the ruler class

and proletariat as the ruled class. The difference of findings between this research and Hira's research was on the fact that this research only focused on the discussion of class struggle, while Hira's research was on the ideologies applied in the society of *Cinderella* movie.

As well as in the first previous research, there were similarity and difference of findings between this research and the second previous research. The second previous research was entitled *Class Conflict in Film In Time: An Analysis using Marxism Literary Criticism* by Yudaris Octin. Octin's research discussed about the reason of class conflict happened in *In Time* film. The findings of Octin's research claimed that distinction of characteristic between the proletariat and bourgeoisie people that caused the class conflict to happen in the film and as the result to cause a revolution from the proletariat side. The similarity laid on the findings between this research and Octin's research was that class struggle (both in this research and Octin's) started from the side who experienced the oppression of the ruling class. On the other hand, the difference of findings was on the fact that: (1) Octin's research claimed there was a revolution arose from the proletariat side, while (2) in this research, there was no revolution rising from the ruled classes. The forms of class struggle conducted by Alita, Dr. Chiren, Hugo, and Nova were meant only for their own sake.

E. CONCLUSIONS

There were three different classes presented by the five characters; Dr. Ido, Alita, and Dr. Chiren were from the middle class, Hugo was from the low class, and Nova was from the upper class. Each character conducted their own forms of class struggle except for Dr. Ido since he did not have any desire to conduct the class struggle. For Alita, Dr. Chiren, and Hugo, their forms of class struggle were different towards each other, yet all of them posed one certain goal which was to change their life condition by going up to Zalem.

In Alita's case, her sole reason of going up to Zalem because she wanted to recollect her memories of past life which could change her life condition at the moment. In Dr. Chiren's case, she wanted to go up to Zalem as her resolve of overcoming the pain living in Iron City and losing her daughter. In Hugo's case, he was so determined to go up to Zalem because he was sick of living in Iron City. On the other hand, Nova's forms of class struggle were to defend his status quo as the one who ruled over the Iron City and Zalem. His reason of doing this was simple; Nova wanted no changes occurred.

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