

## Types of struggles represented on the first character of “Maquia: When The Promised Flower Blooms”

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### Abstract

*The primary aim of this research is to thoroughly analyze the various types of struggles faced by the main character, Maquia, in the animated movie Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms. To achieve this objective, the writer employed a qualitative research method, in order to find the type of struggles that Maquia encounters throughout the narrative. The source material for this research was the movie itself, which was obtained from the internet via the website: <https://kusonime.com>. The data collection process involved several key steps: first, downloading the movie Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms; second, watching the film attentively; and third, taking detailed notes on the dialogues and scenes that specifically depict the types of struggles faced by Maquia. Through this analysis, the writer identified three distinct types of struggles based on Georgia's struggle theory: Man vs. Self, Man vs. Society, and Man vs. Fate or Destiny. These struggles are evident in various aspects of Maquia's journey, particularly highlighting the challenges she faces as a single mother. Ultimately, the research concludes that the struggles depicted in Maquia's story serve as a poignant representation of the profound difficulties associated with single motherhood, underscoring the emotional and societal challenges that accompany this role.*

**Keywords:** Character; Mother; Struggle.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a form of personal expression that conveys experiences, thoughts, emotions, concepts, and descriptions using language as a medium of communication. Literary language differs from everyday language as authors and poets use words with fixed meanings and associations. Literature is an essential part of culture, used to

express human thoughts and ideas. It offers insight into human life and its environment (Meyer, 2018). Analyzing a literary work allows for a deeper understanding of its contents and aspects, supporting comprehension and evaluation of the work.

Literature work also divided into two parts there are, fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is an imaginative work that requires awareness and responsibility in terms of creativity as an artistic work of art (Turan, 2023). Non-fiction is a genre of writing that presents factual information and real events. Unlike fiction, which is based on imaginary or invented stories, non-fiction aims to provide accurate, truthful content. Examples of fiction include dramas and movies, which can be analyzed by examining various elements such as plot, setting, point of view, style, character, and theme. Understanding these elements can enhance one's appreciation of the content of the movie.

A movie is a narrative featuring a specific character that is organized and complete in its structure (Baldassano et al., 2018). The creation of a movie, which blends audio and visual elements, can take diverse forms. One of these methods involves capturing images, sketches, animations, and miniatures using a camera and employing various techniques to combine them effectively. A movie has variety genre that show what producer ideas (Buscombe, 2021). One of it was the movie titled *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* is an animated movie that falls within the genres of drama and fantasy. The story about a young girl who adopted orphan baby making her decided to become good mother for her child. This movie has received positive ratings and feedback due to its compelling storyline and stunning animation. The movie was released on February 24, 2018. Written and directed by Mari Okada produced by P.A. Works. It showcases animation direction and character designs by Yuriko Ishii, who adapted them from Akihiko Yoshida's original designs. The music for the movie was composed by Kenji Kawai. This movie with its drama and fantasy genre makes perfect combination with the storytelling. With Kenji Kawai composed the music that make perfect atmosphere in the movie. The implicit message of the movie deeply resonated with the audience, evoking strong emotional responses.

Throughout the movie, the main character Maquia undergoes a captivating journey of personal growth. Initially, she flees from her tribe as they are being abducted by the kingdom. In her escape, she stumbles upon a chaotic encampment and discovers a newborn baby. Determined and compassionate, Maquia chooses to take the baby under her care and assumes the responsibility of nurturing the child. This makes the audience interested to Maquia's growth overtime through the movie. Many reviewers think that this movie was really point out a single parent struggle in order to raise their child alone This is also making the writer interested to analyze Maquia's struggle throughout the movie until the end.

Struggle is the process of making significant effort and often sacrifices many things to attain goal in life. It involves the determination and hard work of a person or

group who confront numerous challenges to achieve specific outcome or achievement. To put it differently, the struggle represents relentless effort driven by a deep desire to achieve a goal without yielding or giving up.

Based on the information provided, the writers have conducted this research to analyze struggle of Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. Specifically, this research focuses on the type of struggle that represented Maquia throughout the movie.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1. Struggle**

Struggle is the process of making significant effort and often sacrifices many things to attain goal in life. It involves the determination and hard work of a person or group who confront numerous challenges to achieve specific outcome or achievement. According to (Kennedy, 2018) “Struggle meant everything is always up for grabs. Most struggles have already been won and lost. Struggles whose outcome can be predicted need not be undertaken to be lost or won. Some struggles need only be referenced to be won decisively. It takes courage, energy, and imagination to open what has been settled for reconsideration.” Kennedy (2018) also state that, struggle is an inherent and pervasive feature of the human condition, manifesting across multiple spheres of life and influencing the dynamics within and between societies. This struggle is not a static or singular event; rather, it is a dynamic and ongoing process characterized by competition, conflict, negotiation, and contestation over power, interests, and values (Ajeng Noor Fitria, 2024) . In this view, individuals and groups continuously engage in struggle as they seek to assert their positions, achieve their goals, and navigate the complex web of social, economic, and political relationships that define their existence.

Burleson (1964) also claims that “struggle is one of the ways to reach a better life in the future and also to increase prestige. It means that any hope will be achieved through struggling.” According to (Prameswari et al., 2019) traditional gender roles have historically confined women to domestic duties, such as housekeeping and caregiving, which severely restricted their freedom and potential for self-realization. This claim related to (Singh, 2014) struggle explains that determination of a person that focus on the goals and sacrifice everything to achieve it. That in history of the freedom movement is filled with tales of courage, sacrifice, and political wisdom demonstrated by countless women in Indian nation.

### **2.2. Types of Struggles**

Struggle is an essential part of the human experience, driving progress, innovation, and change. Through struggle, individuals and societies confront their limitations, challenge the status quo, and strive for a better future. That mean struggle

have many connections in everything human experience therefor according to Georgia (2015) there are several types of struggles:

#### 2.2.1 Man vs. Self

Man vs. Self: This is when a character grapples with their own inner thoughts, emotions, desires, or moral dilemmas. They may have to make difficult decisions or overcome personal flaws, fears, or doubts.

#### 2.2.2 Man vs. Nature

Man vs. Nature: In this type of conflict, the character faces challenges from the natural world, such as surviving in a harsh environment, battling the elements, or dealing with a physical ailment or disability. This can also encompass situations where a character is pitted against animals or forces of nature.

#### 2.2.3 Man vs. Society

Man vs. Society: The character's internal struggle may be against the norms, values, or expectations of their society or culture. They may question the established order, challenge authority, or fight for justice and change. This often involves themes of social injustice, discrimination, or conformity.

#### 2.2.4 Man vs. Fate or Destiny

Man vs. Fate or Destiny: This conflict centers on the character's belief that they are powerless against a predetermined destiny or an unavoidable outcome. They may grapple with the idea of free will versus fate and seek to change their preordained path.

#### 2.2.5 Man vs. Man

Man vs. Man: it involves a clash between individuals who share similarities. This can be seen, for instance, in the struggle between a hero and a villain within a narrative. Typically, this type of conflict unfolds through arguments or disagreements that escalate before reaching a climax.

#### 2.2.6 Man vs. Supernatural

Man vs. Supernatural: Characters may confront supernatural forces, whether they are battling mythical creatures, dealing with curses, or grappling with their own supernatural abilities or experiences.

### 2.3. Character

“Characters can be divided into two kindly major or main character and minor character. A major character is the most important character in a story. Basically, the story is about this character, but he cannot stand on his own, he needs other characters to name the story more convincing” In other words, a character is a vital intrinsic element in a story that is first crafted by the writer, people in the work of fiction says (Meinawati 2017).

(Nurgiantoro, 2002) then state that characterization in fiction or drama involves the process of introducing and developing characters in a way that allows readers to understand their traits and qualities. This can be achieved through direct means, where the narrator or another character explicitly describes the character, or indirectly, where the character's personality and attributes are revealed through their dialogue, actions, and interactions with others.

According to E.M. Forster (1993) in his book “Aspect of the Novel”, Forster define two types of characters along with their qualities, function and importance to develop the novel: flat characters and round characters. Flat characters are simple and one-dimensional, often built around a single idea or quality. They are easily recognizable and do not undergo significant change or development throughout the story. Round characters are complex and multi-dimensional, exhibiting a range of traits and emotions. They are capable of growth and change, making them more lifelike and relatable.

Pickering and Hoeper (1962) state that round characters have number of qualities and traits, and complex multidimensional characters that considerable intellect to grow and change. This type of character has many traits and complexities. It is not only the intelligence of the character, but also about the character's emotion that can undergo change during the story. This character is able to make the audience paying attention to them.

#### **2.4. Previous Study**

Many writers have applied concepts in analyzing struggle. For example, there are few writers have analyzed struggle with different theoretical frameworks, these few of writer are used as previous study of this research.

The first study titled, *The Struggle of Judy Hopps in the Movie Zootopia* by (Esti et al., 2020) using Karl Marx’s feminism theory this study focuses on the moral values derived from characters' struggles, particularly emphasizing the characterization through a feminist aspect within the context of social class and gender equality, examining how women navigate and challenge the societal norms and barriers related to their social standing and gender roles.

The second study titled, *Analysis of Moral Value and Struggle of Parents with his children in “Dangal” Film* by (Elpiza et al., 2022) using moral value theory from

Soenarjati in Nurohmah and Dewi (2021) This study focuses on the moral values of parents, emphasizing the struggles and sacrifices they make for their children, who face economic issues, work challenges, and other obstacles in achieving their dreams.

The last previous study is titled *The Struggle of the main character in Jane Eyre Movie Directed by Robert Young by Fitriyeni (2023)* Based on Stephen Harrison's (2012) theory of struggle types, this study aims at understanding the main character's struggles, identifying three types in the movie: the struggle of life, the struggle of love, and an internal struggle related to the main character's intelligence and fierce independence.

From these previous studies it can be concluded that there is similarity concept in analyzing theme of struggle within the character. Yet in contrast, this research places a greater emphasis on Maquia's personal journey and struggles as a single mother. It explores her unique challenges in raising a child within the confines of social class, highlighting her role as the head of the family and the sole provider for her child's needs. Reveals that this research delves deeply into Maquia's experiences and the specific obstacles she faces, providing a nuanced analysis of her struggle to balance her responsibilities and achieve self-sufficiency in a society that imposes various constraints on her as both a mother and a provider. This helps the writer analysis to reveal out of what types of struggles that represent *Maquia* in the movie.

### 3. METHODS

This research employed a qualitative descriptive method, concentrating more on textual data than numerical data to convey the findings. The writer adopts a structuralist approach to comprehend character perspectives based by (Margolin, 1989). The aim of this research is to identify the types of struggles that represented Maquia in *Maquia: when the Promised Flower Blooms*, utilizing Georgia's (2015) theory and supported by Kennedy's (2018) struggle theory.

The primary source of data for this research taken from movie. The movie titled *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. The duration of *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* is 1 hour 54 minutes and 48 seconds. *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* was released on february 24, 2018. Written and directed by Mari Okada produced by P.A. Works. The data for this research are from utterances and dialogues. The data is downloaded in this following link: <https://kusonime.com/movie-maquia-bd-sub-indo/>.

The technique used for data collection were based on Hornby's technique by observing the data over a period of time in order to get the data the writer needs. The data documented by watching the movie and read the transcript of the movie for several times. Specifically on dialogue that crucial to Maquia's struggle as a mother. Here are the procedures of data collection. First, the writer search and download

*Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* from <https://kusonime.com/>. Second, after downloaded *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*, the writer watched the *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. Third, while watching *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*, the writer taking note of the dialogue of *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. Fourth, after taking note of *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* dialogue, the writer comprehended the dialogue by reading it. Fifth, after comprehending the transcript, the writer highlighted the Maquia's struggles.

The technique used for data analysis were based on Miles & Huberman (1994) in order to analyzing the data. The content that been analyzed is the highlighted dialogue from data collection and use the procedure. Here are the steps of following procedure. First, classified type of struggle involves the process of displaying data that the writer already identified. The data be simplified in form of sentence that been highlighted. The writer describes the data in sentence that useful to analyze. Second, making a discussion involves analyzing the data had been displayed. Explaining the displayed data. The last step of data analysis is verifying conclusions, this involves extracting the essence of the displayed data. In verification the data development of mother act and struggles that been analyzed in displayed data and already reduced in order to reveal it in conclusion.

## 4. RESULTS

In this research, the writer found 24 data of types of struggles that presented Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms*. It appears that 7 data of man vs. self type of struggles, 13 data of man vs. society type of struggles, and 4 data of man vs. fate or destiny type of struggles. The writer presented the total of type of struggles in table below.

**Table 1.** Results of the study.

<i>Types of struggles</i>	<i>frequency</i>	<i>percentage</i>
Man vs. self	7	29,17%
Man vs. Nature	0	0%
Man vs. Society	13	54,17%
Man vs. Fate or Destiny	4	16,67%
Man vs. Man	0	0%
Man vs. Supranatural	0	0%
Total	24	

### 4.1 Man vs. self

#### 4.1.1 Data 1

*Leilia: Hey, come here too, maquia. jump!*  
*Maquia: I-I can't do it.*

At 01:58, Maquia was encouraged by Leilia to jump off the waterfall. but she doubts her bravery and fears whether it is the right thing to do. This represents a man vs. self because Maquia is scared of heights, making her doubt whether to jump despite Leilia's encouragement. Maquia still lacks confidence in herself when making decisions.

#### 4.1.2 Data 2

*Racine: You must not love anyone. If you love someone, then you will truly be alone.*

*Maquia: I will be alone even if I met someone?*

At 05:41, Maquia is crying alone then Racine greets Maquia, the eldest of the Iorph, who tells her that if she ever goes outside into the world, she should not love anyone because if she does, she will be truly alone. This situation represents a man vs. self because Maquia is an orphan in her tribe, making her fear being truly alone despite wanting to be with someone she can call family. Hearing Racine's statement increases Maquia's fear within herself.

#### 4.1.3 Data 3

*Mido: Once again, "I don't know," huh?*

*Maquia: I don't know what mother is like. Because I don't have one.*

At 20:38, Maquia responds that she has difficulty understanding what a mother is, making her unsure of what actions she needs to take as a mother. This situation represents a man vs. self because of her self-doubt and fear of making decisions. Maquia also lacks a mother's love, making it difficult for her to understand what a mother is. She wonders what it feels like to have a mother, and now that she is a mother, she doubts whether what she does as a mother is right or wrong.

## 4.2 Man vs. society

#### 4.2.1 Data 1

*Lang: is that your baby? It's hard to tell Iorph's age based on their appearance, right? Is that your baby?*

At 17:50, Lang, who is the first kid from Mido's children, asks about the baby, whether the baby is Maquia's child or not. He also states that it's hard to tell the age of an Iorph based on appearance because they live longer than humans. This case enters man vs. society because there are racial differences in appearance between Maquia, who is an Iorph, not a human.

#### 4.2.2 Data 2



*Mido: Who is the baby's name?*  
*Maquia: I don't know*  
*Deol: Such a weirdo, weird girl, weird baby!*

At 18:20, Deol, who notices Maquia's startled behavior, asks who the baby is named after and calls her a weirdo. This case enters man vs. society because Deol sees Maquia as a strange person who cannot even answer a simple question and displays fearful behavior.

#### 4.2.3 Data 3

*Darel: She is Iorph, huh.*  
*Mido: I can't lie to you, Darel. Please.*

At 19:18, Mido helped Maquia to find a job in Darel's store then darel straightforwardly guesses that Maquia is an Iorph. Mido, who cannot lie to Darel, begs so that Maquia can work for him. In this case, it enters man vs. society because of how Darel acts when he knows Maquia is an Iorph, causing him to think twice about accepting her to work for him.

### 4.3 Man vs. fate or destiny

#### 4.3.1 Data 1

*Racine: You must not love anyone. If you love someone, then you will truly be alone.*  
*Maquia: I will be alone even if I met someone?*  
*Racine: That is the fate given to us, The Separated Tribe.*

At 05:43, Racine explains that it is the fate of the Iorph to be *The Separated Tribe*, destined to be alone due to their long lifespan. This case enters a struggle of man vs. fate or destiny because the Iorph are fated to be alone because of their long lifespan.

#### 4.3.2 Data 2

*Maquia: Ariel will... Everyone's day will come sooner than me!*  
*Lang: Maquia...*  
*Maquia: I know that but!*  
*Lang: Who cares about dying first!*

At 29:54, after burying Onora, Maquia ran away crying she knows that she is an Iorph and has a longer lifespan than humans. Maquia is scared to imagine that Ariel will die faster than her. This case enters the struggle of man vs. fate or destiny because

humans have a shorter lifespan than Iorphs, forcing Maquia to remember that Ariel will die sooner than her, something she cannot do anything about.

#### 4.3.3 Data 3

*Miria: Thank God you came at the right time. My father is...*

At 1:43:38, Maquia finally visits Ariel's house. She is greeted by Ariel's granddaughter Lily and escorted by Ariel's daughter Miria to meet Ariel in his final moments. This case enters man vs. fate or destiny because Maquia faces the fate as an Iorph

## 5. DISCUSSION

The writer has been explained to readers about the detail of the type of struggles that represented Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Blooms* in the data above, to start the writer will discuss of the research findings. Firstly, in data 1 in the man vs. self, Maquia shows of self-doubting this indicate that Maquia has a fear of making decision causing her to doubting herself. In data 1 in the man vs. self, Maquia shows lack of self-confidence because her fear for jumping off the cliff with her friend Leilia. This indicates that Maquia has a struggle inside her to do something she never done before. In data 2 in man vs. self, Maquia shows worry when she heard Racine that Iorph is not allowed to love anyone because they will be alone if they do that. This indicates that Maquia has a struggle for being scared to be alone. In data 3 in the man vs. self, Maquia shows lack of self-confidence for being a mother to Ariel making Maquia questioning herself whether it is a good thing to raise Ariel as her son or not. This indicates Maquia's fear of she being a incompetent mother to Ariel in her mind.

Secondly, in data 1 in the man vs. society, says the sentence: It's hard to tell Iorph's age based on their appearance. This sentence indicates that people will judge Maquia appearance based on her race making her struggled to be accepted in the human society. In data 2 & 3 in man vs. society, it is shows that people judge Maquia differently than human. This indicates of Maquia struggled to adapt in human society and this forces Maquia to face her struggles to live and to be discriminated by others.

Lastly, in data 1 in man vs. fate or destiny, shows that Racine explains to Maquia that Iorph is called 'The Separated Tribe' because it is their fate to be separated. This indicates man vs. fate of destiny because Maquia is fated to be separated with anyone she met. in data 2 in man vs. fate or destiny, says the sentence: Ariel will... Everyone's day will come sooner than me. This sentence said by Maquia that she referring to human's lifespan is shorter that Iorph's this forces Maquia to face the reality that she has to watch her loved people die before her. In data 3 in man vs. fate or destiny, it is shows Maquia visits Ariel house after long time to see him die peacefully. This indicate Maquia cannot do to the fate she has been forced.

According to the analysis that been shown the writer clarified that only 3 of 6 type of struggles that represented Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom*. With Most of struggle type that appear is man vs. society that occur many times in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom* to Maquia. The total data that been represented Maquia's struggle is 24 data.

## 6. CONCLUSION

The writer found that 3 from 6 types of struggles according Georgia (2015) is represented Maquia struggles not only as a survivor Iorph but also as a single mother to Ariel throughout the story, there are man vs. self, man vs. society, and man vs. fate or destiny type of struggles that appear. Man vs. self is when a character grapples with their own inner thoughts, emotions, desires, or moral dilemmas. They may have to make difficult decisions or overcome personal flaws, fears, or doubts. Man vs. self struggle appear when Maquia has a self-doubt when making decision and as a mother to Ariel. Man vs. society is when the character's internal struggle may be against the norms, values, or expectations of their society or culture. They may question the established order, challenge authority, or fight for justice and change. This often involves themes of social injustice, discrimination, or conformity. Man vs. society struggle appear when Maquia has different treatment in society as a single mother and as a Iorph. Man vs. fate or destiny is when the character's belief that they are powerless against a predetermined destiny or an unavoidable outcome. They may grapple with the idea of free will versus fate and seek to change their preordained path. Man vs. fate or destiny struggle appear when Maquia realize differences between Iorph and human making her face the reality that she cannot escape her fate of seeing her son Ariel died first before her. The writer concludes that these 3 types of struggles is represented Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom*.

After completing this research, the writer wants to share suggestion that might be useful for the readers and other researchers who are interested with relevant research. In this research, proven that Maquia in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom* contain several types of struggles. Therefore, readers should know that struggle is experienced by anyone every day in many ways. To the researchers, the writer hope there are more related research to come considering struggle are still limitless. Regardless imperfection of this research, the writer hope that there will be other research that can analysis *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom* more specifically considering there is still a few of research of *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom* since the writer only focused on Maquia the research of *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom* still limitless such as struggles of all characters in *Maquia: When the Promised Flower Bloom*.

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