

**CAMPBELL'S JOURNEY HERO OF MAIN CHARACTER'S
NINA SAYERS IN *BLACK SWAN* MOVIE**

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Gaining
the Bachelor Degree in English Literature



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2017

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Other researchers' opinions or findings included in the thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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Nomor : B-498/Un.02/DA/PP.00.9/08/2017

Tugas Akhir dengan judul : CAMELL'S JOURNEY HERO OF MAIN CHARACTER'S NINA SAYERS IN
BLACK SWAN MOVIE

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Wassalamualaikum Wr. Wb.

Yogyakarta, 23 Juni 2017

Pembimbing

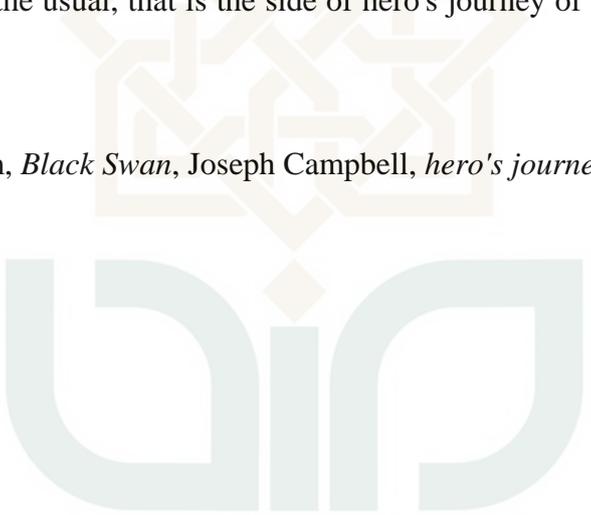
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ABSTRACT

The title of this graduating paper is *Campbell's Journey Hero of Nina Sayers in Black Swan Movie*. The movie *Black Swan* is about ballet performances. The theme of the movie itself is a mystery drama. Although many sources are researching from the psychological side of the main character of this movie, but the writers examine in different sides. The writer sees the other side of the main character in this movie that is heroism, because the human nature has its own hero's side. The method used in this research is qualitative which uses descriptive analysis. The descriptive function used in this research is to descriptive what is hero's journey and apply it to *Black Swan* movie. This is interesting because the movie of *Black Swan* is a psychology movie, which is most journals or researches analyze using psychoanalysis. In this research, the writer sees another side that is different from the usual, that is the side of hero's journey of the main character in this movie.

Keywords: film, *Black Swan*, Joseph Campbell, *hero's journey*, hero.



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ABSTRAK

Judul skripsi ini adalah *Campbell's Journey Hero of Nina Sayers in Black Swan Movie*. Film *Black Swan* ini tentang pertunjukan ballet. Tema dari film ini sendiri adalah drama misteri. Meskipun banyak yang meneliti dari sisi psikologi dari karakter utama film ini, akan tetapi penulis meneliti pada sisi yang berbeda. Penulis melihat sisi lain dari karakter utama dalam film ini yaitu kepahlawanan, karena alaminya manusia mempunyai sisi pahlawan tersendiri. Metode yang digunakan penelitian ini adalah kualitatif yang mana menggunakan analisis deskriptif. Fungsi deskriptif yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah mendeskriptifkan apa yang dimaksud *hero's journey* dan menerapkannya kedalam film *Black Swan*. Ini menarik karena film *Black Swan* adalah film psikologi yang mana kebanyakan jurnal atau penelitian menganalisis menggunakan *psychoanalysis*. Dalam research ini, penulis melihat sisi lain yang berbeda dari biasanya, yaitu sisi *hero's journey* tokoh utama dalam film ini.

Kata kunci: film, *Black Swan*, Joseph Campbell, *hero's journey*, pahlawan.



MOTTO

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-Habibburrahman el shirazy



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DEDICATION



This Graduating paper is dedicated with Love, Honour, and Affection to:
My Beloved Parents (Lilis Jamilah and Misbah Munir)
My Little Brothers (Arief Rahman Maulid and Muhamad Andri Mubarok)
All of My Lecturers in English Department
And My Beloved Husband (Cahyo Wibowo)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah Rabbil 'Alaamiin, in the name of ALLAH SWT, the most gracious and merciful who always gives us blessing. All praises always be to ALLAH SWT. *Sholawah* and *Salam* may always be delivered to our great prophet, Rasulullah Muhammad SAW, along with his family, and followers. Because of ALLAH's blessing, I could finish this final project. Also I would like to express appreciation and gratitude to all people who have affection in finishing my study and especially in this final project. They are:

1. My academic advisor
2. Witriani, S. S., M. Hum., as my research advisor for giving me supports, encouragement, and help.
3. Dr. Ubaidillah, S. S., M. Hum., as the Head of English Department, at Faculty of Adab and Curtural Sciences, UIN Suka. And All of my lecturers in English Department, Dwi Margo Yuwono, S. Pd, M. Hum, Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, S. Pd., M. Hum., M. Ed., (*almarhumah*) Jiah Fauziah, S. S., M. Hum., Ulyati Retno Sari, S. S., M. Hum., Arif Budiman, S. S., M. A., Febriyanti Dwiratna, S. S., M. A., Bambang Hariyanto, S. S., M. A., Isnani Setyaningsih, S. S., M. Hum., for their support, help, and beneficial knowledge.
4. My beloved parents, Lilis Jamilah (mother) and Misbah Munir (father), for the patient, love, extra support, du'a and honor.

5. My beloved little brothers, Arief Rahman Maulid and Muhamad Andri Mubarak.
6. My beloved husband, Cahyo Wibowo, for extra patient, support, and love.
7. All of my friends, Nurhasanah, Ati Kamesywari, *Mba Isti*, *Mba Sulis*, *Dek Maulida*, and for my ex boarding house girls: Trisa, Sheyla, Mia, *Mba Fitri*, Anisa and others. Thankyou very much, for any supports, helps, carring, sharing, togetherness and craziness. Love you guys!. God bless.
8. And for the rest, I will mention you all in my heart.

Yogyakarta, 25 August 2017

The Writer



Puspitasari

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background Study

Movie is a portrayal of lifestyle, habits, and conflicts. It usually shows the conflict of the main character in the movie. Every conflict has solution. The solution usually comes in the end of story, whether it is happy or sad ending. It depends on the movie's theme. The story usually put the main character in the conflict itself. From the conflict, the audience can take many lessons it to be applied in their real life.

Peter Simon said about movie:

A movie is a popular entertainment, a product produced and marketed by a large commercial studio. Regardless of the subject matter, this movie is pretty to look at every image is well polished by an army of skilled artists and technicians. The finished product which is about two hours long, screens initially in movie theaters, is well polished by an army of skilled artists and technicians. The finished product, which is about two hours long, screens initially in movie theaters, is eventually released on DVD, and ultimately winds up on television. (Peter Simon, 2010:03).

In this research, the writer choose *Black Swan* movie. A film by a famous film producer, Darren Aronofsky. It is started by and the famous

actress, Natalie Portman as main characters. This movie also got nomination awards in top 250, 137 won oscar, and others about 48 won and 116 nomination their got. The genre of this movie also make some vexed because beside mystery, there it is also a little romance on it. It also has very complicated conflict to be understood, the main characters in the movie that is Natalie Portman as Nina Sayers she also got a good actress category. So the other actress and director got each nominations on their talent in this *Black Swan* movie.

Black Swan movie mainly told about Ballerina show. The show was a popular in Los Angeles. The audience can see that show was much enough in every ballerina show. Every years, Nina Sayers as the main character in ballerina show must be change to make a fresh look to the audience. Nina Sayers as the main character in this movie, has the expectation to get the main character for the next story of show as a swan. Then, it has the challenge inside of participants in ballerina theater to be the swan. It is a hard competition to be a swan, she must practice harder than usual, because it will be dedicated to all people in the show. It would be the special show to not make the audience feel disappointed and it should be a perfect show. In the end, the main character in the movie try for being the swan and to win on stage of the show. Besides the movie has many nomination awards, this *Black Swan* movie is very interesting to be watched because it has many complicated story and very hard ways to get what the main character wants to be. They all take a very hard

struggle to be expected in different ways and different condition on stage of ballerina shows.

Moreover, the important thing in movie or even in all of a story is character. Characters are the persons in a dynamic or narrative work, endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say, the dialogue and what they do the action. (Abrams, 1970:21) The main character's of Nina Sayers is very interesting character. She is a tiny little girl, weak, mysterious girl. Yet, she has a big ambition. She also has the inner conflict because of her hallucinations. Anxiety attacks escalate in tandem with her progress in rehearsal, artistic breakthrough fuses nervous breakdown. It is about psychological approach of Nina Sayers. It is also more portrayed the inner conflict of main characters in the movie. That is all which made special from the main character of *Black Swan* movie.

Beside the movie genre is mystery movie and mostly about the psychological approach. The writer sees the other perspective about the movie. The writer sees the hero soul on main character in the movie. The writer thought that every human being, whether they has a protagonist or antagonist characters, they can be a hero in their lives. They should be a survivor in their own lives with their own ways, when people has the conflict in their lives, they have to be struggle for everythings to be a hero. Hero is not only about helping people. Hero is the main character in life or in the story. They more emphasize people as their priority. They also would not make other

people feel regret on them because they realize with responsibility, they too difficult to underestimate of people emphasize.

In the story of hero, they must be conquer their difficulties to reach the target or the challenge in lives. They have to through a long process to reach it. To be a different person for others, and to not make people be disappointed. In proving that a person is a hero, it can be seen from hero's journey as their every struggle from the story.

Professor Tonybee said about hero: The hero, therefore, is the man or woman who has been able to battle past his personal and local historical limitations to the generally valid, normally human forms. The hero has died as a modern man; but as eternal man perfected unspecific, universal man he has been reborn. (Campbell, 2004: 42).

In the other words, hero must be a person from nothing to a thing because of their merit. They proper to be a historical or legend in priod to the people. Journey hero is used to know or to appreciate the struggle of hero. A mythological expert, Joseph Campbell, wrote a famous book of hero research. The title of the book is *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*. Much more in his long life, he wrote a research about hero myths and the others stories around the world. So, he discover several basic stages mainly every hero certainly experience in that way. So, he made common structure about journal hero. It is called "the monomyth." So the writer will use this theory for the research and others theory that is needed.

1.2. Research Question

In this research the writer has the research question, but the writer only chooses the problem that is closer to explain on the main topic research:

1. How does Nina Sayers fit the Hero's Journey structure?

1.3. Objectives of Study

The objective of study in this paper is to analyze the hero's journey of the main character of *Black Swan* movie as the hero. The writer also hopes the problem above can be accomplished by these studies.

1.4. Significance of Study

1.4.1. Theoretically

Theoretically, the significance of this analysis is to portray the metamorphosis of Nina Sayers as the hero in *Black Swan* movie. To explore how the hero's journey causes Nina Sayers in the movie. To make the reader know of the hero's journey in the main character's Nina Sayers to be the hero in her lives.

1.4.2. Practically

Practically, the significance of this analysis is to make the reader understand about literary works and character through movie, and to

describe the portrayal of hero's journey in *Black Swan* movie. It also make the readers understand the meaning of hero. The readers also can take the advantage and disadvantage from this movie to apply the good things in their lives.

1.5. Literature Review

In this literary review, the writer found many literaries review which has the same topic about this movie. This *Black Swan* movie is an old movie 2010 but the writer mostly found the reaserch and many others article of this movie is about psychological approach because it is once of psychological movie. The writer found the same topic about the theory of campbell. First, is come from Rahmad Hanafi of UIN Sunan Kalijaga the reaserch titled is Joseph Campbell's Monomyth as Presented in Spiderman Film.

Second is Totok Zunianto 09150036 the research titled is The Stage to be Hero: The Analysis of Hercules Journey in Hercules (2014) Movie. They mainly explained about the hero on main character on movie which is applied the same theory of Campbell. The different with the writer research is the movie and the main characters, we actually has the different story from each movie.

1.6. Theoretical Approach

1.6.1. Hero's Journey Theory of Joseph Campbell

In this research, the writer applies the theory of Hero's journey based on Joseph Campbell. He was explain about journal hero as the concept of Monomyth and the seventeen stages of monomyth as basic structure from three major stages. There are three unit of Monomyth's basic structure.

Monomyth comes from the words 'mono' and 'myth', which 'mono' means one and 'myth' is the story. When put together 'monomyth' means one story. In its own history, Campbell invented the word monomyth from many kinds of different cultures, religions, and races from different parts of the world. After all the stories are collected, then he categorizes into one story similarity. Then Campbell named it with monomyth, which includes into 17 stages of journey hero.

In seventeen stages above, there are three units that are proposed by Joseph Campbell: (1) Separation (2) Initiation (3) Return. in separation there are five stage; (1)The Call to Adventure, (2)Refusal of the Call, (3) Supernatural Aid, (4) The Crossing of the first Thresholdand (5) TheBelly of the Whale. The second is initiation, there are six stages: (1) The Road of Trials, (2) The Meeting with the Goddess, (3) Woman as the Tempress, (4)Atonement with the Father, (5) Apotheosis; and (6) TheUltimate Boon. And the last is return, there are six stages: (1) refusal of the return, (2) the

magic flight, (3) rescue from without, (4) the crossing of the return threshold, (5) master of the two worlds, and (6) freedom to live.

For the definition of each parts, here the explanation of the stages:

1. The Call to Adventure

The hero begins in a situation of normality from which some information is received that acts as a call to head off into the unknown. (Campbell, 2004: 02). In the other words, hero's journey is beginning in this stage. The words "call" it is come from the person that support the hero's to be.

2. Refusal of the Call

Often when the call is given, the future hero first refuses to heed it. This may be from a sense of duty or obligation, fear, insecurity, a sense of inadequacy, or any of a range of reasons that work to hold the person in his or her current circumstances. (Campbell, 2004: 02). As like the explanation about this stage, hero also has the moment that unready to begin their journey.

3. Supernatural Aid

Once the hero has committed to the quest, consciously or unconsciously, his guide and magical helper appears or becomes known. More often than not, this supernatural mentor will present the hero with one or more talismans or artifacts that will aid him later in his quest. (Campbell, 2004: 02). To continue the journey, hero must be need

supernatural aid as the power on hero's soul. That what the hero ready to the journey.

4. Crossing the Threshold

This is the stage where the person actually crosses into the field of adventure, leaving the known limits of his or her world and venturing into an unknown and dangerous realm where the rules and limits are not known. (Campbell, 2004: 02). After the stage above, the hero here also get the consequences with their choices. Meanwhile the hero ready through beyond their own limits.

5. Belly of the Whale

The belly of the whale represents the final separation from the hero's known world and self. By entering this stage, the person shows willingness to undergo a metamorphosis.

6. The Road of Trials

The road of trials is a series of tests that the person must undergo to begin the transformation. Often the person fails one or more of these tests, which often occur in threes. (Campbell, 2004: 02). Hero is like an ambition person which has unlimited power to get what their wants.

7. The Meeting with the Goddess

This is the point when the person experiences a love that has the power and significance of the all-powerful, all encompassing, unconditional love that a fortunate infant may experience with his or her mother. This is a

very important step in the process and is often represented by the person finding the other person that he or she loves most completely. (Campbell, 2004: 02). The mean “The goddess give” is interpretation of the most figure who give support for build the hero.

8. Woman as Temptress

In this stage, the hero faces those temptations, often of a physical or pleasurable nature, that may lead him or her to a bandon or stray from his or her quest, which does not necessarily have to be represented by a woman. Woman is a metaphor for the physical or material temptations of life, since the hero knight was often tempted by lust from his spiritual journey. (Campbell, 2004: 02). It is also said with ‘atonement with father’. The meaning is a figure who has the characteristics like the person those closet with the hero. The person those has the softness soul. To make heros so comfort able to come back when their down.

9. Atonement with the Father

In this stage the person must confront and be initiated by whatever holds the ultimate power in his or her life. In many myths and stories this is the father, or a father figure who has life and death power. This is the center point of the journey. All the previous steps have been moving into this place, all that follow will move out from it. Although this step is most frequently symbolized by an encounter with a male entity, it does not have to be a male, just someone or thing with incredible power. (Campbell, 2004: 02).

In the other words, atonement with the father here is the figure of hero's father. Those it has the power of life and death for hero. The figure not only the male, it can also the female that has incridible power.

10. Apotheosis

When someone dies a physical death, or dies to the self to live in spirit, he or she moves beyond the pairs of opposites to a state of divine knowledge, love, compassion and bliss. A more mundane way of looking at this step is that it is a period of rest, peace and fulfillment before the hero begins the return.

11. The Ultimate Boon

The ultimate boon is the achievement of the goal of the quest. It is what the person went on the journey to get. All the previous steps serve to prepare and purify the person for this step, since in many myths the boon is something transcendent like the elixir of life itself, or a plant that supplies immortality, or the holy grail.

12. Refusal of the Return

Having found bliss and enlightenment in the other world, the hero may not want to return to the ordinary world to be stow the boon onto his fellow man.

13. Rescue from Without

Just as the hero may need guides and assistants to set out on the quest, often he or she must have powerful guides and rescuers to bring

them back to everyday life, especially if the person has been wounded or weakened by the experience.

14. The Crossing of the Return Threshold

The trick in returning is to retain the wisdom gained on the quest, to integrate that wisdom into a human life, and then maybe figure out how to share the wisdom with the rest of the world.

15. The Magic Flight

Sometimes the hero must escape with the boon, if it is something that the gods have been jealously guarding. It can be just as adventurous and dangerous returning from the journey as it was to go on it.

16. Master of Two Worlds

This step is usually represented by a transcendental hero like Jesus or Gautama Buddha. For a human hero, it may mean achieving a balance between the material and spiritual. The person has become comfortable and competent in both the inner and outer worlds.

17. Freedom to Live

Mastery leads to freedom from the fear of death, which in turn is the freedom to live. This is sometimes referred to as living in the moment, neither anticipating the future nor regretting the past.

1.6.2. Film Theory

The witer also uses film theory for supporting the analysis. This subject research is a movie, therefore the theory is needed. In analyzing the movie, the writer focuses on the body language or gesture of each characters and everythings inside. This film theory is used as secondary theory besides hero journey theory by Joseph Campbell to make sure the research of the movie.

In *Concepts in Film Theory*, Dudley Andrew proposes some basic concepts of analyzing film including representation concept. Through the concept, the film then can be analyzed “in terms of a ratio between realistic perceptual cues and cues which mark an effort and type of abstraction” (Duddley, 1984: 42).

1.7 Method Of Research

Every researches should have a certain kind of method to analyze the problem that is taken. It uses an approach to discover accurate information about hero’s journey of Nina Sayers on *Black Swan* movie.

This research was conducted by two ways. They are, library research which is done by reading some references related to it and the second way is field research which is done by analyzing the movie.

1.7.1 Type of Research

The type of this research is library research which is done by reading some references related to the movie. This research applies the

descriptive technique that is explained about the problem statement. This method of collecting data is qualitative.

1.7.2 Data Sources

The primary data is the main data of this research of journal hero and collect it to analyze the object into theory. The primary data of this research are the movie, and the script of *Black Swan* movie. The unit data is from the event of this movie. The movie of *Black Swan* is used to look the problem from the event of main character.

The other data sources is the secondary data. It is taken from the book references about hero that are related to the analysis of hero's journey of main characters in the movie. The other supporting data are taken from the article or journal and all the informations about *Black Swan* movie from any sources.

1.7.3 Data Collection Technique

The data and supporting information are collected by reading all references. Certainly, the first step is watching the movie for several times to understand the movie clearly and mark the scenes from the movie that are included to be criteria for supporting the data analysis. The writer also reads the other supporting data sources related to the topic. The second step is field research which is done by analyzing the movie.

1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique

The writer uses the descriptive analysis. Firstly, the writer will analyze the primary data of *Black Swan movie* using the hero's journey theory of Campbell. The analysis also use the secondary theory from film theory for presenting the image of scene to understand the story shows. And the last is making a conclusion of the analysis below.

Contributing to the sense of reality (of immediate apperception and non-mediation) are at least four elements, some of which Christian Metz outlined in his earliest writing.

1. Experimental preconditions, such as the darkened auditorium.
2. Analogical indices such that the image of an object shares actual visible properties with its referent.
3. The psychological imitation which cinematic flow provides of the actual flow of reality. Importantly, movement in the cinema is actual movement, not represented movement, and our mind is brought alive by it.
4. Finally, the lure of sound, which establishes a second sense to verify the first and which analogically is more exact than image representation.

All of these characteristics tend to put us in front of a filmed image as if we were in front of a real scene in life. What keeps us from accepting the image as life is a fissure which we sometimes leap, sometimes refuse to leap, and most often straddle. Consisting of such experiential counters as bodily immobility, of nonanalogic aspects such as foreshortening, and of the more basic fact that the scene has been put before us by another, these anti-illusionistic elements lead us to treat the film not as life but as an

image in the Sartrean sense, as a presence of an absence. (Duddley, 1984:34).

The characteristics above is like the setting of place and time of the movie. The other is image, that choose some actual visible, too know the event inside the movie. Also some actual movement for choose some psychological imitation to see the movie alive. The last is visual sound on the movie it is can make people know the event, and moment in the movie.

1.8 Paper Organization

This paper is divided into four chapters. The first chapter consists of background of study, scope of study, research question, objective of study, theoretical approach, method of study, and paper organization. Chapter two: the explanation about intrinsic elements and review theory of hero's journey by Joseph. Chapter three is analysis by discussion that presents the hero's journey of main character's *Black Swan* movie conducted by Joseph Campbell theory. Chapter four is conclusion and suggestion about the hero's journey in main character of the movie.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This is the final chapter of the research after portrayal and discussion all of the elements journey hero from the *Black Swan* movie based on Joseph Campbell theory. Beside that, there is also suggestion for the reader for the next research.

4.1. Conclusion

In this Journey hero by Joseph Campbell, everyones can be a hero. In the story of hero, they must fight from difficulties to reach the target or the challenge. They must through a long process to reach it, to be a different person for others, and to not make people be disappointed. For embodying the appreciate of hero, they have through the journal hero as their struggle. Hero must be a person from nothing to a thing because of their merit. They proper to be a historical or legend in priod to the people. Journey hero is used to know or to appreciate the struggle of hero.

In Nina's case, there is also one aspect that influences them all. It is a mental illness affected all dimensions of Nina's character. It makes her to change her behavior. It is important to define that the changes in Nina's case is actually affected much by her sickness. Mental illness affected physiological, sociological and psychological aspects of Nina Sayers` life which could not be separated because they were related one another.

Nina choose to be an ambitious for her perfections. From her ambition, she not affraid of the death. Her death does not mean she lose but she dead with the happiness and proud feeling to her self. She has gave the perfect show to the audience, friends, her mother, and the director. Nina's freedom disclosed with her death and giving happiness for others too. Then this movie has to be the bad ending story. With the hero this seems like a tragic hero. The hero in this movie never seems tragic because of her achievement.

4.2. Suggestion

We can reach everythings that we want, but it is better without a huge ambition. Everything which is beyond the limits will be a bad thing for people. It can be seen from the Qur'an in surah Al-baqarah: 216 :

كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الْقِتَالُ وَهُوَ كُرْهُ لَكُمْ وَعَسَانْتُمْ كَرَهُوا شَيْئًا وَهُوَ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ

وَعَسَانْتُمْ يُحِبُّوا شَيْئًا وَهُوَ شَرٌّ لَّكُمْ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

“Fighting is enjoined on you, though it is disliked by you; and it may be that you dislike a thing while it is good for you, and it may be that you love a thing while it is evil for you; and Allah knows while you know not.”
(Al-Baqarah: 216)

Lampiran

Monomyth of Joseph Campbell

Unit	Stage	Figure
Separation	Call to adventure	The beginning of call to adventure with three reason: her mother, director, and competitors.
Initiation	Refusal of the call	Nina's ambition to be swan queen.
Return	Supernatural aid	Nina's mother and her director Leroy, who are the protective ones.
	Crossing first threshold	At the first time Nina undisciplines on Erica's rules.
	Belly of the whale	Nina does not care about Erica's rules.
	Road of trials	Two different personalities fight one another in Nina's self.
	Meeting with the Goddess	Black swan magic
	Temptation	Hit Nina's embodies to be black swan.
	Atonement with the father	Leroy (Nina's director) as a father figure.
	Apotheosis	Nina starts changing into black swan

	The ultimate boon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nina got appreciation on stage - the audience give standing applause for Nina
	Refusal of return	Nina fell alive even though she is wounded in the end of show.
	Magic Flight	The successfull to play black swan.
	Rescue from Without	Nina's reborn to be a perfect ballerina in her lifes, after the show.
	Crossing the Return Threshold	Nina is successfull to play both characters, Nina need her mother's company in the end of show.
	Master of two worlds	between the black and white swan. Those two differences of personality.
	Freedom to life	In the end of the show, Nina feels that she realeases her freedom when she jumps from the stage.

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