



## Beth's struggle for love in Angela Morisson's sing me to sleep

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**Abstract.** This research discusses about Beth's Struggle for Love in the novel Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrison (2010). It aims to find out the motivation Beth's struggle and how she struggles to get her love. Based on the result of the study, it can be concluded that the motivation focused in Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrison is divided into two types of motivation, namely intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. In discussing Beth's struggle for love, Suryani's theory of struggle is applied. The theory proposes four kinds of struggle i.e. The struggle to accept the fact of life, the struggle to achieve dream, intrinsic struggle and extrinsic struggle. This research applies descriptive qualitative method with psychological approach. The results of the analysis shows that Beth is intrinsically motivated to struggle to be loved by doing facial surgery. After the facial surgery he transforms into a beautiful girl and this makes her feel confidence and eventually she finds her love.

**Keywords:** *Struggle, motivation, love.*

### INTRODUCTION

"Life is a struggle" that's how the English say that life is a struggle. This means that in this life there must be an effort from us to be able to move forward. When someone does not have the enthusiasm to move forward, it is certain that the person will be a loser for the rest of his life. That person can only blame circumstances, himself and others. For that, whoever we are, if we want to be successful, there must be a struggle in this life. Seeing the understanding above, if we examine it more deeply, it would be better for us to struggle as much as possible to achieve the success we want to achieve. try as much as possible in this life, so that we can reap the fruit of success that we plant when we struggle. The corelation about struggle with novel Sing Me to Sleep by Angela Morrison is the writer will describe about Beth's struggle on this novel with writer point of view.

The issue about struggle is also discussed by Angela Morrison in Sing Me to Sleep. The novel describes about Beth Evans, a seventeen years old girl was born withered and pimply with a purple blotch on her forehead. She studies in second class at Port High School, Michigan. Her friends at school always disturb and sneer at her. They call her The Beast. Scott is her friend since they are in kindergarten. He always helps her. He accepts her just the way she was. He likes all about her although her face is very ugly. He

## LITERATURE REVIEW

There are some previous studies related to this topic the first study was written by Husna Karya Ibnul (2021) in his thesis entitled *The violence suffered by Beth in Angela Morrison's Sing Me to Sleep*. In his study, Husna concluded that Beth, as a woman, has experienced a lot of direct violence, especially at school, such as physical violence, sexual violence, and psychological violence. The second previous study was done Eka Sari by in her thesis entitled *Struggle of Woman* (2017). Based on the research, the researcher has answered the research questions concerning kinds of women's struggle and main character struggles to get her love in the novel *Sing me to Sleep*. The third previous study was done Harisa Mandasar (2017) in her thesis entitled *The Struggle of Love as Reflected in Nicholas Spark's the Notebook Allie's conflict is her own anger upon herself to make a right decision on her choice*. She fails to control her emotional anger because of her inability to convince her parents about her rights. She has been trapped on family tradition concept that the rich must marry the rich or at least in the same level of social status.

The Paradigm of Love, love always be a hot topic for discussion. It has penetrated the heart of every human being living on earth. Many opinions about the meaning of love still can not explain love itself. through this theory the researcher can also analyze the type of love that exists between the main characters. May (1969: 109) in his book *Love and Will* "love brings both joy and destruction.

A struggle is an attempt to obtain something or to defeat someone who is denying you something. In other words, the struggle is a hard work accompanied by a strong desire to get it without a word of surrender. There are many definitions of struggle mentioned by some experts. Statement from (Kennedy, 2018, p. 7), "Struggle mean 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." The writer believes that courage, energy, and imagination are interrelated guides to take back something that has been fought for.

Motivation of Struggle, motivation is an important thing to exist within a student especially the motivation in learning. Uno (2012:3) has explained that motivation is the encouragement that they are within someone to make changes in better behavior it needs.

## METHOD

The researcher uses a discriptive qualitative method to analyze Beth's struggle for reaching her love in Angela Morrison's *Sing Me to Sleep*. The data are analyzed by using evidances in the form of quotations taken form the novel itself and other references such as internet, some book about literature and material which are related to Beth's in *Sing Me to Sleep* by Angela Morrison. This researcher applies a psychological approach in analyzing the novel. The psychological approach applies psychological theories to explain the character's personality. The main instrument in this research is the researcher himself because all of the data collections are done without any other equipment such as recorder of quitioner. It is only the researcher who plays a part in analyzing this study.

In collecting the data, the researcher uses some steps. The first step is choosing the novel and read it for several times. This is meant to understand the story and to find out some notes and highlight some parts which are considered important and probably can be used for support in the analysis. The second step is stating the research problems and the third step is gathering the data to get information which can be needed in the analysis. The researcher uses qualitative analysis techniques. By using psychological approach, the reseacher needs

carefully to find out the aspects of the novel. The researcher uses three steps in analyzing the novel the data analysis for this research is started by identifying characters deeds and behaviors. Then, the data are classified by using the literary approach. Then, the researcher explores the data more deeply according to the researcher interpretation or argument with investigating and adjusting the Beth's struggle for reaching her love in *Sing Me to Sleep*.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### A. Beth's Motivation to Struggle for Reaching her Love

Beth is born with the face of a less perfect than other child her face is full of freckles, purple blotches on her forehead and an oval head as a result of childbirth. It is a fact of life that must be accepted with less than perfect face Beth have to fight for her mockery of the reality of life makes her uncomfortable. She remains patient with it all, though it is hard for her to face the social life. It means that she gets biological complications. One day Beth misses her father because she never plays again with her father to build a tower of toys made from white and yellow plastic bowls. Her father never sees her singing the first song she writes because her father leaves her. She still struggles to remain patient even though if her father abandons her because her face is ugly.

When she is born her father mocks her mother because have face is very ugly. Her father thinks that her mother eats and drinks incorrectly. Her face is smaller than the average person's. It is identified to the other children with a freckle filled face, he had purple patches on his forehead, and the oval head is attribute to the birthing process, it can be seen in the following quotation.

"Damn, how ugly it is, Tara. What did you do? As if something she had eaten or drunk would have made me come out red and full of pimples with a purple spot on my forehead. Hair less. Head for child birth. My baby faces bugging and yelling." (Morrison.2010 : 5).

"I'm also from port high school how don't you know me? I forgot I was a monster who always you disturb every time. and when scott came back to bring a drink for beth, beth then splashed the boy's face and the boy left the hall. then scott asked what was wrong with that boy? He doesn't realize I'm Beth who he bullies every time I see him at school, maybe because the pimples on my face have disappeared and I don't wear my thick glasses. Breathe out and filled my lungs again. This is the same process used to remove tattoos. You may want to close your eyes. Agree. Closed. It is peaceful. At first. But when epidermis down to the raw, horrible itchy. Burning. My eyes cry. Glad to have sunglasses. Ready. It was not so bad. Let's go to the next. Shit. It is just beginning. There is something wrong with me. I'm getting dizzy a little " (Morrison2010 : 148).

From this quote, the author thinks that Beth has succeeded in changing her face to be more beautiful and in motivating herself to strive to be better, but here Beth sometimes thinks that this is all fake; everyone wants to know her because Beth is beautiful and good at singing. Beth wonders why people don't think hidden greatness is more than just looks. Struggles seem to be different depending on the condition. Sometimes, she cannot distinguish between what she is doing and what she wants to do, and the inner struggle starts to be most dangerous. In this novel, the author describes a condition that illustrates the strong determination of the main character by showing the motivation of the individual in Beth's character for living her life who wants to fulfill a need where the main character can feel her needs are fulfilled in that situation. To be able to meet the needs of her better condition than before encourages her to be able to make her life much better than before, which raises individual motivation in the main character.

### **B. The Way Beth's Struggle in Life for Reaching her Love**

In life's struggle to reach her love, Beth always thinks about how she can devise ways and ideas to start her struggle and reach her dreams. Beth does everything with a very strong determination, whatever it takes to be able to realize her love. Beth is ambitious, full of strength, and confident in herself. Beth will do everything she can to get what she wants, even though it is quite difficult, but she consistently avoids heavy things that can help her immediately find a man who will love her all the way.

After sometime, Derek, who used to be known only on social media, finally got up the courage to meet in person. This made Beth feel anxious, afraid that everything would not go as she expected. They met at an amusement park in the city of Port, and Derek was in the same city. Others visit Beth for the first time. That night was very memorable for Beth, but when she was driven home to go home, Beth met one of her best friends, who reminded her not to directly use her feelings for a man she had only met once. Beth's best friend heard the story that, "He will play his game wherever he goes, he chooses the girl he wants to approach, subdues her, gets what he wants then goes on his private jet. So what do you expect from a guy like that? he was greatly admired by women because of his voice and good looks. how do you know? he is very famous in the world of professional choirs and his team often holds tours between countries and there is also a lot of news about his closeness to several women in the world of choirs " (Morrison 2010: 219). In that quote, Meadow tries to tell Beth that it's better to be careful to get to know men more deeply, even though Beth has never felt that way. Her friend is also too worried about Beth because if she doesn't focus on the choir competition, which will be held in 3 days, Beth will lose everything, starting from her career in the world of choirs, and she will lose Derek, who will return to the city where he comes from.

### **CONCLUSION**

In the novel *Sing Me to Sleep* by Angela Morrison, which tells about the struggle of the main character Beth, who is also the major character in the story, Beth's character is described as a strong person who has the confidence to do what she wants and to achieve what she struggles with. The struggle of Beth's character is described in a very difficult way because Beth is just someone who was born under pressure from the bullying around her.

That's all the story of Beth's motivational struggle to get her love. It can be said that Beth's struggle was not easy because the struggle she did in her society was very risky, especially when she decided to face her fear with obedience, as her face for getting better looks like. Beth has succeeded in proving to the world that she can be more with her voice and her face. Because of that, humans are creatures who are never satisfied and always feel lacking, even when they already have everything.

Based on the result of the study, it can be concluded that the motivation focused on in *Sing Me to Sleep* by Angela Morrison is divided into two types of motivation, namely intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. Intrinsic motivation will already exist within each individual. While extrinsic motivation is the impetus for a person's behavior that is outside the actions she takes, This motivation will be active when there is a stimulus from outside. Some experts refer to it as external motivation. The intrinsic motivation contained in this novel is based on factors such as needs, expectations, and interests. The extrinsic motivation contained in this novel is based on society's encouragement, the desire, and what one strives for. Beth's story in the novel *Sing Me to Sleep* teaches that a person can survive anything and get what they want by herself, even though society refuses. And people always want

more because when they live, they still want more and more and are never quite satisfied until the time comes when they are gone for good. That is life.

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