

**ANALYSIS OF DEATH INSTINCT IN THE CHARACTER OF MARIA  
CALLAS IN “MARIA” MOVIE SCRIPT (2024)**

**TERM PAPER**



By:

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DEPARTEMENT  
FACULTY OF ENGLISH AND CULTURE  
DARMA PERSADA UNIVERSITY**

**2026**

**ANALYSIS OF DEATH INSTINCT IN THE CHARACTER OF MARIA  
CALLAS IN “MARIA” MOVIE SCRIPT (2024)**

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Submitted in part-fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining Sarjana Linguistic (S.Li) Degree



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DARMA PERSADA UNIVERSITY**

**2026**

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT

I hereby declare that the term-paper is the result of my research and not plagiarism of another work, the contents has become my responsibility. All the sources of my research and quoted or referenced have been stated correctly.




Jakarta, February 24, 2026



# LETTER OF APPROVAL

## LETTER OF APPROVAL

On recommendation of respective Supervisor, Academic Advisor, and Head of the Department, the term-paper submitted by Riris Yulaekah Entitled "Analysis of Death Instinct in the Character Maria Callas in Maria (2024) Movie Script has been approved and forwarded to the English Language and Culture Department, Darma Persada University, for final evaluation before the thesis defense for obtaining Sarjana Linguistic (S.Li) degree to the respective candidate.

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# TERM PAPER VALIDATION

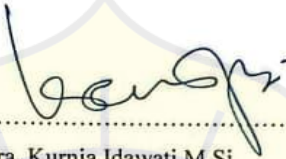
## TERM PAPER VALIDATION

On February 5, 2026 the term paper has been academically tested and defended in front of


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Jakarta, February 24, 2026

Writer,

  
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# ANALYSIS OF DEATH INSTINCT IN THE CHARACTER MARIA CALLAS IN “MARIA” MOVIE SCRIPT (2024)

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to analyze Maria Movie Script (2024) written by Steven Knight using the death instinct theory by Sigmund Freud. This study reveals Maria who experiences inner trauma due to her painful past caused by her mother, Litsa, and her boyfriend, Onassis. This study uses elements that lead her to the death instinct, starting from the return to the inorganic condition, repetition compulsion, self-destructive tendencies, and the conflict between eros and thanatos. This study focuses on Maria's despair in living life. This study uses an intrinsic approach to reveal the elements of character in the story, and an extrinsic approach to connect each dialogue snippet with the death instinct theory. The research method used is descriptive qualitative with content analysis techniques on dialogue and narrative in the film script. Data are collected, classified, and organized to find elements that are appropriate and related to the death instinct. The results of the study show that through intrinsic elements, two characters, Onassis and Litsa, are identified as triggers of Maria's inner conflict. Meanwhile, the extrinsic elements reveal Thanatos's dominance over Maria's mind, manifested through self-destructive actions such as taking Mandrax pills, hallucinating, and consuming alcohol. Thus, the script for Maria depicts Maria's highly complex psychological state, which allows Thanatos to dominate her mind, and Maria's way of resolving her trauma and inner conflict is by returning to an inorganic state.

**Keywords:** death instinct, Sigmund Freud, trauma, script, content analysis

# ANALISIS NALURI KEMATIAN PADA KARAKTER MARIA CALLAS DALAM NASKAH FILM “MARIA” (2024)

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## ABSTRAK

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis naskah film Maria (2024) yang ditulis oleh Steven Knight dengan menggunakan teori death instinct Sigmund Freud. Penelitian ini mengungkap Maria yang mengalami trauma batin akibat masa lalunya yang menyakitkan yang disebabkan oleh ibunya, Litsa, dan pacarnya, Onassis. Penelitian ini menggunakan elemen-elemen yang mengarahkannya pada death instinct, dimulai dari return to the inorganic condition, repetition compulsion, self-destructive tendencies, and conflict between eros and thanatos. penelitian ini berfokus pada keputusan Maria dalam menjalani hidup. Studi ini menggunakan pendekatan intrinsik untuk mengungkap unsur-unsur karakter dalam cerita, dan pendekatan ekstrinsik untuk menghubungkan setiap cuplikan dialog dengan teori naluri kematian. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah kualitatif deskriptif dengan teknik analisis isi pada dialog dan narasi dalam naskah film. Data dikumpulkan, diklasifikasikan, dan diorganisasikan untuk menemukan elemen-elemen yang sesuai dan terkait dengan naluri kematian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa melalui elemen intrinsik, dua karakter, Onassis dan Litsa, diidentifikasi sebagai pemicu konflik batin Maria. Sementara itu, elemen ekstrinsik mengungkapkan dominasi Thanatos atas pikiran Maria, yang dimanifestasikan melalui tindakan merusak diri sendiri seperti mengonsumsi pil Mandrax, berhalusinasi, dan mengonsumsi alkohol. Dengan demikian, naskah film Maria merepresentasikan keadaan psikologis Maria yang sangat kompleks, yang memungkinkan Thanatos untuk mendominasi pikirannya, dan cara Maria menyelesaikan trauma dan konflik batinnya adalah dengan kembali ke keadaan anorganik.

**Kata kunci:** naluri kematian, Sigmund Freud, trauma, naskah film, content analysis

## TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>LETTER OF APPROVAL</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>TERM PAPER VALIDATION</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	<b>vi</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	<b>viii</b>
<b>ABSTRAK</b> .....	<b>ix</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b> .....	<b>x</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study .....	1
1.2 Identification of The Problem.....	2
1.3 Limitation of The Problem.....	2
1.4 Formulation of The Problem.....	3
1.5 Objective of The Research.....	3
1.6 Benefit of The Research.....	3
1.7 Systematic Organization of The Research .....	3
<b>CHAPTER 2</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK</b> .....	<b>5</b>
2.1 Intrinsic approach.....	5
2.1.1 Character and Characterization .....	5
2.1.1.1 Telling Method.....	6
2.1.1.2 Showing Method.....	6
2.1.2 Plot .....	8
2.1.2.1 Exposition .....	9
2.1.2.2 Complication.....	9
2.1.2.3 Climax.....	9
2.1.2.4 Falling in Action .....	9
2.1.2.5 Resolution .....	9
2.1.3 Setting .....	10
2.1.3.1 Setting as a Background for Action .....	10
2.1.3.2 Setting as Antagonist .....	10
2.1.3.3 Setting as a Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere.....	10
2.1.3.4 Setting as a Means of Revealing Character.....	11
2.2 Extrinsic Approach .....	11
2.2.1 Psychology .....	11
2.2.2 Psychology Literature .....	12

2.2.3 Death Instinct .....	13
2.2.3.1 Return to the inorganic condition.....	13
2.2.3.2 Repetition compulsion as a typical symptoms of death drive .....	14
2.2.3.3 Self-destructive Tendencies .....	14
2.2.3.4 Conflict between Eros and Thanatos.....	14
2.3 Previous Study .....	14
<b>CHAPTER 3 .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>RESEARCH METHOD .....</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1 Time Location.....	17
3.2 Research Approach and Method .....	17
3.3 Research Data and Object .....	17
3.4 Data Collection Technique.....	18
3.5 Data Analysis Technique .....	18
<b>CHAPTER 4.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF DEATH INSTINCT IN THE CHARACTER MARIA CALLAS IN “MARIA” MOVIE SCRIPT (2024) .....</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1 Returning to the Inorganic Condition Appears in the Maria Movie Script.....	20
4.1.1 Returning to the Inorganic Condition Based on Character and Characterization in Maria Movie Script.....	20
4.1.2 Returning to the Inorganic Condition in Plot .....	25
4.1.3 Returning to the Inorganic Condition Based in Maria in Setting.....	28
4.2 Repetition Compulsion Appears in Maria Movie Script.....	31
4.2.1 Repetition Compulsion in Maria Based on Character and Characterization .....	31
4.2.2 Repetition Compulsion in Plot.....	35
4.2.3 Repetition Compulsion in Setting.....	39
4.3 Self-destructive Tendencies that Appears in Maria Movie Script .....	41
4.3.1 Self-destructive Tendencies in Maria Based on Character and Characterization .....	42
4.3.2 Self-destructive Tendencies in Plot.....	46
4.3.3 Self-destructive Tendencies in Setting.....	49
4.4 Conflict Between Eros and Thanatos That Appears in Maria Movie Script.....	52
4.4.1 Conflict Between Eros and Thanatos in Maria Based on Character and Characterization .....	52
4.4.2 Conflict Between Eros and Thanatos in Plot .....	57
4.4.3 Conflict Between Eros and Thanatos in Setting .....	60
<b>CHAPTER 5.....</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>SCHEME OF THE RESEARCH .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>APPENDIX 2.....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>POSTER OF THE RESEARCH .....</b>	<b>69</b>

<b>APPENDIX 3</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>PRESENTATION SLIDES</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>APPENDIX 4</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>TOEIC CERTIFICATE</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>APPENDIX 5</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>CERTIFICATES</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>APPENDIX 6</b> .....	<b>76</b>
<b>TERM-PAPER CONSELLING FORM</b> .....	<b>76</b>
<b>APPENDIX 7</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>TURNITIN RESULT</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>APPENDIX 8</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>CURRICULLUM VITAE</b> .....	<b>80</b>

