

# Film Critique

"*Blue Jasmine*", released in 2013, is one of the few films by well-known director Woody Allen that has the controversial genre. The film has won a plurality of movie awards and prizes and was warmly received by most critics. Despite this, he got quite mixed reviews about its genre. Some of the film professionals classify it as drama while others insist on that it is shot within the framework of a biographical fiction. In fact, the genre of drama is not typical for Woody Allen, who is working most often in the genre of comedy or parody. This essay is aimed to explore the film in terms of its genre affiliation, and make sure that *Blue Jasmine* has vivid features inherent drama.

First and foremost, the film has a lot of characteristics, which indicate that it was shot in the genre of drama. Storylines of each hero are strong enough imbued with a certain part of a tragedy. Jasmine, the protagonist of the film, is experiencing series of events, which from the standpoint of view of an ordinary person, are destructive ones. Being rich, without the need of something, she is married to Hal, who is a successful businessman. They live in own villa near New York with their son Danny. Despite this, one day, Jasmine loses everything, when it turns out that that her husband is engaged in financial fraud. He goes to prison and commits suicide, Danny repudiates them both and leaves

the house, and the heroine herself without any financial support, moves to her poor sister in San Francisco. The trials are not limited to it, and she is experiencing the sexual harassment on the part of the dentist, to whom on the recommendation of a sister's friend she comes to take a job. One day, she meets a seemingly successful diplomat Dwight, who wants to marry her, but in consequence of a chance meeting with the ex-husband of her sister, Dwight discovers all the truth about Jasmine that she carefully has concealed.

In terms of reflectionist theory, the film has a sufficiently serious social basis, which affects many people, who for one or another reason are on the verge of poverty without a home and a suitable income. In addition, the film shows another side, which reveals that often poor people tend to be more financially successful, and subject their money accumulation to dubious projects, as it has happened with Augie, ex-husband's of Jasmine sister.

As for the main elements of the plot, they increasingly evidence of the genre of drama. The plot is filled with such manifestations as a fraud and a violation of law, suicide and death, sexual harassment, alcoholism, mental disorders. In addition, the characters are experiencing destructive feelings, among which are depression, apathy, aggression, panic, frustration, indifference, cruelty, and many others.

In addition, the basic theme of the film is intended to emphasize a

person's life, which is accompanied by negative developments, which always stand at a crossroads of the verge of an emotional breakdown. Moreover, the film has no clear answer how the life of Jasmine will continue. The heroine, after the unlucky effort to marry, leaving her sister, sits down on the bench and continues to talk to herself, remembering the past life.

Woody Allen uses several of techniques to convey the tragic life of Jasmine. He makes small flashbacks, where the past is suppressed by the future, and the viewer can feel the atmosphere and understand the train of Jasmine's thought when she talks to herself. Big plans of her monologues and the shooting of her face during reaction to the staggering events are also used within the framework of the dramatic genre.

As for the iconography, the film is not saturated with clichés, but it represents some obvious patterns, including the attributes of the rich and the poor life. Jasmine possesses of exclusive things and wears clothes of famous brands, while, for example, Ginger purchases the discounted stuff and works in a large supermarket, laying out the products on the shelves.

Therefore, taking into consideration all the above, it can be said that "*Blue Jasmine*", no doubt, belongs to the genre of drama, and such areas as plot, theme, technique, iconography and deep social basis underline it in the different forms throughout the film.