# The Interpretation of the Tragic Fate Causes of the Characters in Stephen Novel "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets"

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**Abstract.** "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets" is the debut of American writer Stephen • Klein, the writer uses naturalistic literary expression to describe slum girl Maggie brought ruin in a miserable life under harsh environment forces. Tragedy of Maggie is inseparable from her living environment, behind their tragic fate hidden chaotic social environment, twisted moral values, in addition, the natural character of Maggie makes her have to make such a sympathy tragic life. Based on this, the paper describes the fate of the main character in "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets" and to identify the root causes of their tragic fate.

## Introduction

Stephen Klein is a famous American poet and writer, he is the typical representative of American naturalistic literature of his most representative works is the "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets" novel. This novel tells the story of Maggie in a hostile environment, gradually cornered story, novel material derived from the slums of the darkness of American society truly reflected the atmosphere was exactly the opposite of American literature, eventually leading to a lot of publishers can not publish the novel, Klein only their own money to publish the novel. Fiction hero Maggie live in slums, she is a quagmire flowers in full bloom, she has a very beautiful appearance, innocent, good, pure, full of longing for a better life, fantasy get sweet love. This was a special environment, Maggie naive character ultimately led to her tragic fate and factors contributing to the tragic fate of Maggie There are many internal and external factors including the two factors, but also by the double impact of character and social environment. Based on this, starting with an environmental perspective and character of both the tragic fate of Maggie analyzed.

## The Victim of the Social Environment

After the end of the Civil War, America's situation has changed gradually from capitalism to imperialism society. While building a large number of railway lines, development of mineral resources, the use of advanced production technology and the liberation of black slaves continue to make production technology, resources and labor market development constantly promote the rapid development of the US economy. 1880s, the US economic crisis, many SMEs have closed down, more intense social conflicts, leading to a large number of slums, year by year increase social crime, the United States faces a serious social crisis. When Brian was in the creation of the novel "street girl Maggie," the social background of the novel choose this period, the contradictions about the man and the environment naturalistic truly reflected.

Hurt by the Social Poverty. Maggie was born in the slums of the United States, they all lived in a very old apartment and people in the slums struggle to survive hard: "gravel road dust was blown up large, cyclone formed in household door window, long clothing in the sun Fire escape on swaying. The remote places littered with bottles, cans, brooms and buckets. the children were playing on the street, some fighting each other, some innocently sitting on the ground in a daze, they will block the traffic the way and those women who, leaning on the railing ragged chatter of gossip, some women are still each other loudly. The old man huddled in a corner, smoking cheap cigarettes, those leisurely look feels very funny. "Brian slum this detailed description, giving very decadent, dark and negative feelings, followed by articles hero played Maggie," a ragged girl,

pulling a crying loudly, flushed a child upstream busy street. "the authors used such language to describe American society reflects the harsh environment of the time, and living in distress status of that era people's social life so that they do not wish, therefore they can not get rid of tragic fate.

After Maggie grow up out of poverty as soon as possible in order to survive and live in between "work" and "when the sister," She chose the former, Maggie went to a shirt factory work each week to give five dollars reward. Maggie and other workers as very hated boss, but still sitting in the factory every day before operating the machine, the boss endured insults and exploitation, but there is no way to change the status quo. Maggie born beautiful, brother and friend Pete so she lured him to live together, the young Maggie excessively believes Pete, this is because of love full of beautiful Maggie expectations and more hope to change her by Pete poor fate to live a better life. However, it is only naive fantasy for some time, Pete will cruelly abandoned Maggie, Maggie had to go to the streets as a prostitute in exchange for their desired life, Maggie finally can not stand because of poor living and commit suicide. Works Maggie was born in the mire, and grew up in the mire, and finally had to die in the mire. By Maggie's experience, readers can feel how vile and social chaos of that era that was how filthy slum social environment is that there is no space where people can survive.

Hurt from Domestic Violence. Maggie's family environment is very run-down and his father was an ordinary worker, only a relatively modest income, so unbearable reality of his father only a day to drink to numb themselves, in order to avoid disputes and distress family life. The mother is a typical slum bitch, she likes to drink and selfishness, there is no quality, very rude and the child has no love, just keep beating. Brother comparison hostile society, like fights, has a relatively strong jealous rich psychological, brought up as a police pursuit of criminals, have not grown up there many times been arrested recording. Immediate environment such family character is caused no affection, no love Maggie grew up in the family, there is no affection between parents, only war; there is no affection between brother and sister, only to compete, but she grew by domestic violence injury, family violence and apathy toward destroying not only her body, but her soul hurt, but she was more determined to escape this life determination.

Maggie frustrations and tragic fate of a major character --- inseparable from her mother, Maggie's mother did not have any aura of motherly love, mother thinks Maggie is a bitch, a bitch, no matter under what circumstances she would humiliate Maggie on her irony, sarcasm, in the mother's body simply do not feel a little bit of motherly love, only endless beatings and humiliation, she often cursed his daughter, " what life not enjoy only in the gutter of life, life will be lived a dark life. "Pete and Maggie after being abandoned, she wanted to return home, although the family has been so unbearable, but in my heart there is still Maggie He is able to go back home, but unfortunately, mother and brother kept her kicked out, she did not have any concern and love. At this time Maggie is still very good, pure, innocent, which is even more contrasting ruthless indifference of her family, so the family will undoubtedly Maggie psychological cause a fatal blow to her slowly being pushed to the edge of the edge, chose to commit suicide to end his hopeless life, but also her own tragic fate ended.

Persecuted by the Hypocritical Ethics. Maggie's mental torture but also by middle-class hypocrisy ethical impact, resulting in the tragic fate of another main reason Maggie is pursued middle-class morality, which is the need to be recognized and accepted by others. Life is like a play, such as the social arena, not just every actor is also the audience, in order to obtain approval of others and is sure to play their role in society is good, so that everyone can accept themselves. This brings Sartre's existentialist theories reflect the profound: all human activities are doing to others, and others are purgatory. Moral standards of the middle class made it is full of hatred, intrigues and infighting between people, Maggie's tragic fate and ethical standards that society has a direct relationship. Maggie works shaped the typical slum bitch mother image, she is very selfish, I like to drink, very rough, in front of others to portray itself as hard parenting mother image, after Maggie prostitute, his mother felt very shame, in order to maintain their so-called dignity, she strongly disagreed with Maggie to return home, she will be very firmly Maggie out of the house. Pitt will play on Maggie's bourgeois hypocrisy ethical concepts demonstrated most vividly, Pete surface

handsome, gentle, thoughtful, gentle, but his heart is very ruthless, selfish and hypocritical, he likes the look and beautiful Maggie good, pure heart, he will own accessories as Maggie, Maggie can not have any of his breach and objections. Pete from the outset that Marge is his outcome is for him to show off the capital, Maggie's beautiful appearance to meet Pitt's vanity heart, when people looked at him with envy and Maggie, he I will feel very proud and satisfied that this is precisely the era of bourgeois vanity typical psychological characteristics. When Maggie status bar of a threat to him, he was mercilessly abandoned Maggie, he has no shame to think Maggie is Maggie fallen mother and brother indifference caused, he felt he did not there should be no sense of guilt. OF portrayed by Brian Pete's soul and dirty ugly face to satirize the hypocrisy of bourgeois notions of morality, the novel describes the author's real life hero of the family environment, ethics and social environment, mainly in order to reveal the person's extremely powerful and humble social environment, in order to show the novel "the man is a victim of circumstance," the theme will affect the social environment of real reflected from the environment point of view that the source of Maggie so tragic fate.

## The Tragic of Characters

Maggie deeply affected by the tragic fate of character, some people think Maggie's vanity eventually led to her tragic fate, but some people think Maggie goodness, purity and innocence is the root cause of her tragic fate.

Good and Pure. Maggie is a relatively good, pure girl, grew up in the slums, her heart is very pure. Klein wrote of that in the novel: Maggie grew up in the mire, but she is lightness finds flowers, she is living in the apartment area of miracles, slums do not have any dirt on her, Maggie was a kid, playing in the street and his companions, she liked it very clean, but her clothes are very old, so people did not notice her. Maggie purity after she was tempted by another abandoned manifested, by her heart and soul to condemn torture. Maggie was originally the victim, but the mother and brother of blame and pointing to her neighbors, making her heart feel so dirty and burdened by guilt. Heart condemned and tortured by guilt over her own and become more serious, because of the loss of her virginity and had become a prostitute, her heart has been much suffering, and ultimately can only get rid of their suffering through suicide. Paper twisted moral values is one of the causes Maggie eventually die, but also the tragic fate of the people of that era's instigation.

The Overdone Naïve. Excessive innocence and fantasy makes Maggie tragic personality show more clearly, Maggie's dream is out of the slum, fantasy obtains a better life, but that kind of social environment, how Maggie to get the life she wants? It is impossible to rely on family, her mother was a bad-tempered shrew, my brother is a social bully, like the battle, the family is unreliable, and can only rely on themselves to achieve a better life. Maggie grew up in the slums, she no professional school education, be able to find a job to fill his stomach has been very good, how there are other luxury? To get Maggie happiness can only marry a good family. When Maggie meets Pete, she seemed to have found their savior, she will own all the good hopes in the body of Peter, Maggie own a new house decoration, to dress in the hope Pete can be her beauty attract. Maggie's innocence in the face of Pitt after the performance is very obvious, mainly in two aspects: on the one hand, her own happiness lies in a stranger's body, even if the stranger knew nothing, she also hope that through this strangers to get rid of their own life of suffering, which can allow himself to become the focus of a so-called happiness; on the other hand, Maggie Pitt after being abandoned, even for Pete's personality with understanding, or their illusions, even ignore Pete has done its dirty things passionately devoted so naive Maggie finally to make the real demise.

## **Conclusion**

The tragic fate of Maggie is caused by the harsh environment and their innocence. The author Klein as a naturalist writer, through his realistic approach to Maggie as the tragic fate of street girls conducted in-depth description, character by Maggie social and environmental impact of making a victim. From a macro point of view, this is a tragic novel, but the author is no clear moral position,

but according to the spectator's point of view has been described in its lifetime. Maggie people for their own happiness, and the courage to fight fate, although the final outcome did not get rid of her death, but her spirit lives gave the struggle people in hardship environment with great encouragement and comfort.

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