



The movie I would like to talk about is “Evita”. It is an American movie directed by Alan Parker in 1996 and starring Madonna as the main actress. The script was adapted from the famous theatre musical of the same title that had been created by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice in 1978, and that was based on the life of Eva Perón. Alan Parker, Webber, and Rice devised the movie by adapting the original music of the former musical. The songs were brilliantly interpreted by Madonna as Evita, together with Jonathan Price as Juan Domingo Perón and Antonio Banderas as the narrator of Evita’s life.

The movie became a blockbuster due to its outstanding soundtrack, the powerful performance of Madonna and to the plot which depicted the life of the, undeniably, most famous woman in Argentina. It won several awards, including an Oscar for the song “You must love me”, a Golden Globe Award for the best film and a Golden Globe Award for Madonna as the best actress.

The film starts when Eva, née Duarte, leaves her hometown at the age of fifteen to pursue her dreams of becoming actress in Buenos Aires. She has to struggle to survive in the big apple for some years until she meets the politician Colonel Juan Perón, marries him in 1945 and eventually becomes the first lady of the nation when her husband wins the Presidential elections in 1946. She dies prematurely from cancer in 1951 at the young age of 33. But the life of Eva Perón is more significant than her rapid social climbing. She takes part actively in the political campaigns of her husband, getting for him the support of the working classes. She defends the labour rights, the female vote, and founds charitable organizations and the first female political party. The film focuses on her political activities and her charisma, and shows how loved she was by the lower classes, but also somehow feared by the upper classes. The scene of her funeral, which inserts real images of the historic event, is impressive and makes spectators understand why Evita is considered a heroin in Argentina.

The scene I would like to comment is the moment when Eva Perón addresses the nation from the balcony of the presidential house, La Casa Rosada. At that time, she already knows her illness and tries to calm down the population. The director uses for her speech the main theme of the film “Don’t cry for me Argentina”. Evita through her singing explains her efforts and her love for her country, justifies her life always devoted to the Argentinians and is also a farewell to them. The scene resembles the real speech Eva Perón addressed the citizens in 1951 from that same place

I like this scene because it is a complete summary of the life’s sense of Evita. She conveys her feelings through the lyrics of the song, wisely converted into a moving speech, and she is corresponded by the population. The impressive images of the citizens calling her name reflect how adored she was, and the lights, focusing on her, reinforce the importance of her figure as their heroin. Furthermore, I especially like this song and I think Madonna’s performance is outstanding in giving her voice the right emotion for this beautiful moment in the movie.