

AN ANALYSIS OF ID OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE NOVEL “GONE GIRL” BY GILLIAN FLYNN:PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze Amy's character in the Gone Girl novel written by Gillian Flynn. In conducting this research, the researcher used Freud's theory with psychological approach. In his theory, Freud introduced the structure of human personality, there are three namely id, ego and superego. The objective of this research is to find out Amy's Id in the novel Gone Girl. In analyzing this study, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive method as a data collection technique. From this study, the researcher concluded that Amy's Id is more dominant than other Freud's three personality of structures. The pleasure principle which is the main goal of Id was very clearly carried out by Amy, Amy's desire to revenge her husband is the part of the pleasure principle itself, because Amy was satisfied and relieved at a successful compilation of revenge plans. For the sake of achieving her wish, Amy was even able to do the unexpected things, when Amy's killed Desi, so Amy could return to Nick, satisfied with the compilation of seeing her parents who worried of her, and lying to everyone, Amy said that Desi was the one kidnapped her all this time.

Keyword: Id; Main Character; Novel.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Research

Conscious or not, literature is the part of human daily life. Everyone can enjoy the literary works anytime. Literary works such as novels, drama, and poetry are always able to entertain anyone who read it. *Littera* is Latin which means letters. This word is the origin of the formation of the word “Literature”. The word *Littera* itself refers to words that are printed and written. But nowadays, the focus of the literature itself is more on imaginative works that appear in the minds of the author. The unlimited imaginative mind of the story writer makes literature create his own world. It means that there are many literary works that are created not only from the personal experience of the author, but also born from the author's unlimited imagination.

Novels developed in England and in America, in those country the novel was developed from other nonfiction narrative forms such as letters, biography and history. But as time goes by, novels are not only based on non-fiction data, the author can change the novel according to the wishes of the author itself based on their imagination. For more than two hundred years, novel has been the favorite for both readers and writers. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary, the word novel is interpreted as a long essay and in the form of prose that contains a series of stories in the

characters' life and the people around the characters that are told by highlighting each character in it.

One important element of a novel is character. The characters in the novel are created by authors to convey their ideas or feelings about something that is happening in this world. The whole story in the novel is dominated by characters because the character has power to do it. The author can bring these characters through many problems in different situation. Through the novel, the author can convey a message through the events and actions of the characters in the novel, not only aims to bring pleasure to the readers.

Gone girl novel was written by Gillian Flynn, Gillian Flynn is a modern writer that was born on February 24, 1971 on Kansas City in America, the wife of Brett Nolan and has a child named Flynn Nolan. The gone girl novel is one of Gillian's 3 novels, the other being Sharp Objects and Dark Places.

Gone girl novel was released in 2012 and was included in the New York Times best sales list. David Fincher, a director who raised the novel as a film with the same title in 2014. The film was first played at the opening night of the 52nd New York film festival on 16th September 2014, and was released on third of October 2014 nationally. This film is the best-selling David movie because it was well

received by critics and made a profit of \$ 368 million. Through this film David received the award as best director of the Golden Globe Award, and the actress who starred in this film was also nominated in several awards as the best actress, even Gillian was awarded as the best scenario of the Critics' Choice Movie Award for the novel *Gone Girl*.

This novel tells about Amy's household and her husband Nick, where Amy deliberately runs away from their home right on their fifth wedding anniversary, and Amy leaves evidence at their home for purpose police will suspect her husband as her murder, she did it because she began to fear of her husband. She thought that one day her husband will kill her because Nick started to be rude and even hit her, another reason why Amy did it was because she wanted revenge on Nick who had an affair with a student. She wanted her husband in jail.

The researcher chooses *Gone Girl* novel as the object of this analysis because the researcher wants to find personality of the main character related with psychology based on Sigmund Freud's theory. The theory consists of three major structures; id, ego, and superego as this theory is applicable to analyze the personality of the main character in this novel, Amy. Amy is a success woman with high intelligence and beauty, but after she found her husband Nick, having an affair, she began to show psychological problems that she had which will be discussed in the second session which uses Freud's theory of psychological problems. By using Freud's theory, the researcher found that the main character of the film, Amy suffers from neurotic anxiety because of her parents makes her discomfort since the book *Amazing Amy* was released. The feeling itself exists in the ego, but it originates from the id impulses.

Related to the previous study in analyzing the character in a novel is written by Raheleh Bahador and Esmaeil Zohdi (Vol.4 No.2;2015) from Department of English Literature, faculty of humanities, Vali-e-Asr University, Rafsanjan, Kerman, Iran, published their journal in *International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature* entitled "Alice Munro's "Runaway" in the Mirror of Sigmund Freud" discussed about Munro's short fiction based on Sigmund Freud's theory of

Unconsciousness and its relation to dream interpretation and symbolization of the three main characters based on tripartite agents of the id, ego and superego. Descriptive qualitative method was applied on that research. Unconsciousness of a woman's character is reflected in her dreams as a result of oppression and social drive and desire. Looking at the three main characters in Freudian psychic trilogy terms, they are proven to be in accordance with their Freudian psychological terms. Symbolizing Flora, Clark and Sylvia as id, ego and superego respectively. Flora, the little white goat is the embodiment of the id. He is a reservoir beyond desire and drive and tempts Carla for aggression and rebellion. Arranged by the pleasure principle, Flora as an id symbol fills the pleasure of Carla's freedom. In the next section, Clark stands as a manifestation of the power of the ego from the outside. He mediated the conflict between Carla's wishes and the demands of reality. Repression is the most important mechanism that classifies Clark in ego groups. His character is always bad on the one hand and eliminating Flora as an incarnation of the power of the id, on the other hand is a manifestation of Clark's repressive power. As an indication of the principle of reality, Clark pushed his wife back to limits such as social law. Sylvia Jamieson is a superego symbol. Sylvia is filled with guilt as a symptom of the superego. He is the embodiment of the superego which tends to morality and order. His conscience, which represented the internal voice of the superego, made him confirm Carla's return to his family.

Similar research has been conducted by Prayudias Margawati from Semarang State University. This journal entitled 'A Freudian Psychological Issue of Woman Characters in Daphne du Maurier's Novel *Rebecca*', argued that in analysis of literary works in a psychological approach mostly applies Sigmund Freud's theory. Human unconsciousness is identified by researcher in Du Maurier's novel *Rebecca*. The researcher of that research analyzed id, ego, and superego emerged as psychological aspects in the women character by using personality theory. The researcher used qualitative method on her research. As the conclusion of that research, the researcher said that when the ego or superego could not activated by the character

to control the id, then the character will face difficulty surviving in the environment.

The two studies above use the same theory as this study with different analyzed data. The theory used is Sigmund Freud's theory of human personality that is id, ego, superego. The two previous studies above analyze all the three human personalities, while in this study will only analyze the Id of the main character. The data that will be analyzed in this study is a novel entitled *Gone Girl* while the above research analyzes Du Maurier's novel and short story entitled *Runaway*.

From the explanation above the researcher would like to conduct a research with title: AN ANALYSIS OF ID OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE NOVEL "GONE GIRL" BY GILLIAN FLYNN:PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.

Formulation of the Problem

After the researcher limited the problem above into one problem only, so in this research, there is one problem to be formulated which is 'how Amy's Id described in the *Gone Girl* novel?'

Objective of the Research

Referring to the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the research is to find out Amy's Id in the *Gone Girl* Novel.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

In the literature of study, a basic element or principle that is used to appreciate a literary work is called approach. Literature and the psychological role of the author are inseparable, because literature is a work

2.1 ID

According to Sigmund, humans have three main components to their personality that cause us to behave the way we do and make us who we are (Freud & Hall, 1921). The id is the libido or bad desire which is lawless asocial and amoral. Id is a personality system that is genuine and the only personality of components that present since birth. Impulses, drives, instincts that are inherited by psychological aspect are found in the id that human brings since birth. The examples of

created by humans that have function as a medium for the author to express his feelings. Psychology related to noticeable design of human's behavior and literature present how human beings behave in dealing with their problem and environment (Freedheim & Weiner, 1987).

The ability of the author in processing words to create a literary work, making the literary works are not only limited to entertain, but also as a learning for the reader. That is easy for us to understand that human life will never be separated from souls and feelings. Literature and psychology are related to each other because both used human experience as a material for a study (WELLEK & WARREN, 2015). Therefore, in literature research psychological approach is a suitable approach to use.

However, character in the literary works are judges by the readers to be psychologically. People may model their lives upon the patterns of fictional Hero's based on their psychology view. The art value in fiction not only can reproduce life but also shapes it. To avoid misunderstanding of the psychological approach, there are some expert of psychological analysis, one of the famous experts is Sigmund Freud.

Sigmund Freud, a psychologist and neurologist from Austrian who developed the psychology theory that working in the human mind. Sigmund divided the human psyche into three parts that is the Id, the Ego, and the superego (Freud & Hall, 1921). This theory is suitable to be applied in analyzing the personality of character in a literary work especially in a novel.

these psychological aspects are hunger, sex, thirst, cool, and another of experience that indicate a need. The purpose of sex is pleasure, but this pleasure is not limited to genital satisfaction (Feist, 1925).

Id operate based on the principle of pleasure (pleasure principle) (Edmundson, 2019), the purpose of the pleasure principle is to free people from tension, tension is experienced and interpreted as pain or discomfort, that is why, it can be said that the goal of the pleasure principle consists of

avoiding pain and seeking pleasure. "The pleasure principle does not take into account the feelings or others, society norms, or agreement between people" (Freud, 1992)

Primary processes and reflexes action are two ways the pleasure principle is processed. Reflexes are automatic birth-born reactions such as eye blinking. Reflexes action are usually immediate and used to deal with simple excitement, while the primary process is an imaginary / imaginary reaction to something that can reduce or eliminate stresses – used to handle complex stimuli, such as a hungry baby imagining his mother's food or nipples. Another system that connects Id with the objective world is ego.

2.2 EGO

The second element of personality system is the Ego. The Id forms the ego, through ego people will be able to handle the reality. Psychic agents that will protect individuals from id is called ego. When id operates by pleasure principle, the principle of reality will contribute to the ego. Reality means everything that exists. Unlike the id, the ego distinguishes between reality and fantasy, tolerates moderate amounts of tension, changes as function of new experience and endanger in rational cognitive activity, (Feist, 1925).

The principle of reality aims to delay the release of energy until the object that satisfy the needs has been produced and discover. For example, the baby must learn not to put everything in his mouth when he is hungry. The baby must learn to recognize food, and must postpone it until the baby has found an object that can be digested. If not, the baby will experience various painful experiences. The principle is done through a secondary process (Secondary Process), which is realistic thinking to plan and test whether the plan produces the intended object. The process is called reality testing (Reality Testing). The ego is mostly in the consciousness and a small part operates in an awareness and unconscious area.

According to Freud, as cited on (Hall, 2019), Ego is an executive (executor) of personality who has two main tasks:

1. Choose which stimuli you want to respond to and / or which instincts will be satisfied according to the priority needs.

2. Determine when and how those needs are satisfied according to the availability of minimal risk opportunities.

In carrying out its functions, often Ego must unite the conflicts between Id and Superego and the outside world.

2.3 SUPEREGO

The superego is the moral and ethical power of personality, which operates using the idealistic principle as opposed to the principle of Id satisfaction and the realistic principle of the Ego (Wertham, 1950). The superego is psychic agent that protects society which is related to the norm that stir people in society.

Superego is the part of unconscious mind. In psychoanalysis of Freud, Freud conceptualized how the unconscious mind operates into a particular structure of human mind. According to Freud, superego tries to force the ego to pursue moral goal instead of simply realistic one and force the id to inhibit its animal impulses. The Id constitutes part of one's unconscious mind

The idealistic principle has two sub-principles, namely conscience and ego-ideal (Freud, 1992). Whatever behavior is prohibited, considered wrong, and punished by parents, the child will be accepted into conscience, which contains anything that should not be done. Whatever is approved, rewarded and praised by parents will be accepted as the standard of perfection (Ego-Ideal), which contains what should be done. In the perspective of the superego, a good personality is one who is able to subject himself before moral considerations (Febriani, 2017). The process of developing consensual and ego-ideal, which means accepting the wrong and right standard is called introjection (introjection). After introjection, personal control will replace parental control.

METHOD OF RESEARCH

In this chapter, researchers will describe the research methodology used to complete this research. The explanation in this chapter is about the steps and the way the research was conducted. The entire process and steps to complete this research in finding answers to the problems mentioned in the formulation of the problem, will be explained by researchers in this chapter clearly.

The whole processes of this research started from when reading the novel by Gillian Flynn that related do criminal cases doing by the main character in the story. This novel is great for learning about characterization, because the researcher of the novel success to present the unusual characters. Not black and white. Colored characters and make the readers think repeatedly to hate or like each character. Every character has a strong character and his movement is unexpected. Talking about characterization, the closest thing with that is psychology. Sigmund has a theory about psychology, namely the id, ego and superego that will be used by the author in conducting this research.

This research is a kind of qualitative research, Qualitative research is more descriptive and does not make generalizations but emphasizes the depth of information so that it reaches the level of meaning where meaning is the data behind the visible (Sugiyono, 2018). The research method includes the procedures or techniques of the research since the preparation until the end of the research. The method are explained including the method of collecting data, the method of analyzing data, and the method of presenting result of the research.

Object of the Research

Object of the research is an attribute or character of people (Sugiyono, 2018). Researchers find problems in the object of the research that will be analyzed, so the researcher can make conclusions from the analysis of the object of this study itself.

In order to determine the object of this research, the researcher had read some novels and the *Gone Girl* novel by Gillian Flynn succeed makes the researcher interested in analyzing it.

Method of Collecting Data

Document study is used by the researcher in collecting data. Document study means that the data are collected from writing works, pictures, and soon (Sugiyono, 2018). Collect the scientific data or scientific information such as theories, information, or methods from journals, books and other document is the activity in document study. Document study is

the method of collecting data based on text to analyze the context.

There are 2 kinds of data are collected in this research, that is the primary data or the main source of the data and the secondary data. The main source of the data in this research is a novel by Gillian Flynn entitled *Gone Girl*. The secondary data was taken by researcher to enrich the materials and to complete this research is from all of the papers which support and add more information related to this research including watching the movie of this novel, read the Indonesian version of the novel, read the books of the theory applied, read the books of methodology of the qualitative research, read the Indonesian version of the books of theory applied, and some internet sources.

Method of Analyzing Data

Method of analyzing data in this research is analyzing the intrinsic element of fiction. The researcher analyzes the intrinsic elements of novel which means a set of aspect in fiction which is build the story from inside of the story itself. Element of fiction consist of plot, character, setting, point of view, and theme (Aminuddin, 2015). In analyzing the intrinsic element of a novel, the researcher reads a Novel by Gillian Flynn entitled *Gone Girl* and highlight the main character in that novel to analyzed.

Method of Presenting Result

The most frequent form of displaying data for qualitative research is by using text (Sugiyono, 2018). So, the results of the study will be presented with a qualitative-descriptive method, which the researcher will present the research results in the form of words, sentences, and paragraphs, this means that research is delivered using the form of words or paragraphs to convey research. The researcher uses this method because the researcher uses sentences and paragraphs to explain clearly the results of the study.

RESEARCH ANALYSIS AND FINDING

The research analysis and the data gathered will be presented in this chapter. In this chapter the researcher present the answer of the problem that mentioned in the first chapter of this research on item Formulation of the Problem.

Research Findings

The researcher has mentioned above that the id is driven by principle of pleasure, where Id will do everything to fulfill all of wants and desires without think is it in the correct way or not. Based on that explanation, the researcher found that the girl gone novel has Id on the main character of that novel.

4.2.1 Amy's Id

Amy was the main character in this novel, the researcher found that in this novel Amy's id is dominant, can be seen by following quotation:

My wife loved games, mostly mind games, but also actual games of amusement, and for our anniversary she always set up an elaborate treasure hunt, with each clue leading to the hiding place of the next clue until I reached the end, and my present.(FLYNN, 2012).

Controlling other is a part of id. In this case Amy's id revealed when Amy express her desire in controlling Nick by creating a treasure hunt as the gift for their wedding anniversary. The treasure hunt become a tradition for their wedding anniversary every year creating by Amy. Every year, Amy will give Nick a gift that describe their relationship on that year.

'Amy, I don't get why I need to prove my love to you by remembering the exact same things you do, the exact same way you do. It doesn't mean I don't love our life together.' (FLYNN, 2012)

The incident in the quotation above shows when Amy was angry with Nick because Nick gave the wrong answer in the treasure hunt that Amy made as their wedding anniversary gift. Amy wants Nick to prove his love by remembering all the special things that they both have gone through in detail, it happened, where it happened, what made the event special for them, because Amy remembers everything in detail. Amy's desire to be perfect as Amazing Amy the character in a novel does everything in detail and planned so that the results will always exactly the way Amy wants. That's also what Amy wants from Nick to do, perfection, especially in loving her. Until a small mistake that Nick did will trigger

Amy's anger. In this case, it is clear that Amy's ID is very dominant, when what Amy wants is not realized then Amy will be angry.

My checklist for today – one of many checklists I've made over the past year – sits beside me in the passenger seat, a spot of blood right next to Item 22: Cut myself. (FLYNN, 2012)

The quotation above tell Amy's id show when Amy create a plan to avenge his donation infidelity, in this case id of Amy wants to find pleasure from the revenge plan. In the list of plans for revenge, Amy is even willing to hurt herself just to pursue pleasure. The researcher found another quotation that Amy really did the list that had been planned.

I ended up cutting into the inside of my upper arm, gnawing on a rag so I wouldn't scream. One long, deep good one. I sat crosslegged on my kitchen floor for ten minutes, letting the blood drizzle steadily until I'd made a nice thick puddle. Then I cleaned it up as poorly as Nick would have done after he bashed my head in. (FLYNN, 2012).

The whole point of Amy's revenge plan is to create a scenario that Nick, her husband killed Amy by letting her blood flood the floor and cleaning it up and then people would think Nick was the one who did it. Besides that, Amy also uses other men to achieve her goals as can be seen in below quotation:

Desi, another man along the Mississippi. I always knew he might come in handy. It's good to have at least one man you can use for anything.(FLYNN, 2012)

The quotation above shows that Amy can use anyone for her own interests without thinking about the person's feelings. On her escape, Amy gets a problem, all her money is robbed by the neighboring room where Amy is hiding so that Amy has no money at all for her daily needs during her escape. Amy meets her ex-boyfriend, Desi. Desi who still loves her, is easily deceived by Amy, so Desi allows Amy to stay in his house and give Amy everything needed.

"Nick must be taught a lesson. He's never been taught a lesson". (FLYNN, 2012)

For Amy, revenge on her husband by making her husband become a suspect for his wife's murder is a natural thing to do. The quote above shows the vengeful figure of Amy. Revengeful Amy will not give a warning to the villain but will give severe punishment, and that also applies to her husband's nick. Nick's affair hurt Amy, than for over a year, Amy neatly arranged a revenge plan. Amy plans to run away and will leave false evidence so that everyone suspects Nick has killed Amy until the police will imprison Nick.

So I began to think of a different story, a better story that would destroy Nick for doing this to me. A story that would restore my perfection. It would make me the hero, flawless and adored. (FLYNN, 2012)

The quotation above shows another ID of Amy, when Amy first learned that her husband was having an affair, she felt angry and her desire to see her husband destroyed because he had an affair made Amy plan revenge on him by planning his own murder.

My parents are worried, of course, but how can I feel sorry for them, since they made me this way and then deserted me?. (FLYNN, 2012)

Amy blamed her parents for everything that happened in her life. Because Amy felt her parents only made her a land of money. Her parents wrote a series of books titled Amazing Amy, where the book tells about Amy's perfect life from childhood to having a perfect marriage, making Amy must try to be as perfect as Amazing Amy by ignoring her true happiness. In this case Amy's Id became dominant when she ignored her parents' sad feelings in order to fulfill her desire to take revenge on her husband.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

This chapter will discuss about the conclusion of this research. This research using Psychological Approach by Sigmund Freud's theory to analyze the main character of the Gone Girl novel (Amy).

After analyze the ID of the main character of the Gone Girl novel, the researcher conclude that, Amy's ID is very dominant in this novel.

Amy, a beautiful woman who is famous from the fictional character "Amy" written by her parents, is always ready to be perfect like the characters in the books of her parents. "Amazing Amy" is a series of novels depicting the perfect Amy, until the last book of the Amazing Amy, that tells about the perfect marriage of the main character. Amy who always attempt to be as perfect as the characters in the book also ask for a perfect marriage, a perfect husband with unconditional love from her husband. The affair of Nick, Amy's husband with a woman that younger than Amy destroyed Amy's hopes of a perfect marriage. Amy wants her husband to be punished because of his actions, Amy didn't want a divorce with Nick because Amy knows that that is what Nick wants. Amy prepared a revenge plan for her husband, Amy frames Nick for her murder and leave some evidence that will lead police to suspect Nick as the murderer of her wife. Id is about the pleasure principle, Amy's pleasure is to revenge to her husband that has an affair of her. Amy let go of her parents' sad feelings for worrying about Amy missing, Amy also killed her ex-boyfriend who had helped her when her money had robbed so Amy could back to Nick. Until the end of the story, Amy threatens Nick to keep Nick from their child who is still in Amy's womb if Nick does not erase the journal Nick wrote about all Amy's lies.

Suggestion

From the analysis and conclusion above, the researchers hope that this research will give new knowledge to the readers about literature, psychology and the relation between both. Also, after read this research the readers will have a new interest about literature. For the next researcher who interest to analyze this novel, to analyze with another theory of Sigmund Freud such as ego and superego. For wider research about this novel, this novel also can be analyzed with another approach. Finally, for the student of university, this research can be used as the reference when conduct a thesis about the id of the character in the literary works by Sigmund Freud.

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