

AN ANALYSIS OF PSYCHOLOGY CHARACTERS IN NOVEL “BUKAN PELAJAR BIASA” BY SHANDY TAN

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Abstract

This research aims to describe the psychology of the characters in the novel "Not an Ordinary Student" by Shandy Tan with literary psychology approach. The method used is a qualitative descriptive method, namely analyzing descriptive data by presenting and describing something that exists. The data source was obtained from the novel, namely "Not an Ordinary Student" published by PT Elex Media Komputindo Gramedia Group, IKAPI Member, Jakarta 2010. Data analysis techniques were carried out by: 1) Classifying the data that has been collected, 2) Re-examine the data that has been classified, 3) analyze the data that has been classified according to the problem from the novel "Not an Ordinary Student" 4) Conclude. Based on the results of the analysis above, it can be concluded that in the novel "Not an Ordinary Student" by Shandy Tan there are 5 characters, namely: Imelda, Ibu, Erik, Uncle Dennis, and Aunt Anna who have different personalities from one character to another.

Keywords: Analyze, Psychology, Novel.

Introduction

Literature is a creative work where authors express their imaginations through textual form. Literary works are products of an author's psychological and intellectual state, often created semi-consciously and then consciously crafted into a specific literary form. Such works are meant to depict the inner turmoil of human beings as seen through the behaviors of characters (Semi in Endraswara, 2008:7). Psychological research in literature plays a crucial role in understanding it, primarily due to several advantages: first, it delves deeper into character aspects; second, it provides feedback to researchers on character issues explored;

and third, it aids in analyzing literary works intertwined with psychological issues (Endraswara, 2008:12).

Novels, dramas, or short stories as literary forms depict a realm of reality where events and behaviors of characters unfold. Social, psychological, and religious realities often feature theme in literary works, specifically psychological realities such as certain mental experienced by main characters in response to themselves and their environments. Shandy Tan's novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa" tells the story of a young woman that work hard to fulfill her family's needs and as a modest family striving to secure employment while continuing her education to achieve her hopes and dreams. The conflicts depicted by the author create inner turmoil within the characters, making a case for analyzing the psychological aspects of the characters in Tan's novel. This study aims to contribute to understanding societal norms and character development, and serve as a reference for analyzing literary works related to character psychology.

Method

This research is classified as qualitative descriptive research. The subject of this study is Shandy Tan's novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa," and the object is the analysis of the characters' psychology in the novel based on Sigmund Freud's personality theory. Data collection utilized document recording methods, where information was noted written documentation to gather research data the novel. The researcher, as the instrument, played a significant role in data collection and analysis, employing qualitative descriptive analysis techniques to organize and interpret the gathered data. In this research, the researcher used qualitative descriptive analysis technique. Raw data obtained from the field before being processed or analyzed needs to be organized into related groups or tabulated and arranged in such a way that it is easy to read, understand, and serves the needs of the analytical tools used. The steps in data analysis are as follows: 1. Reduction (data identification, data classification, and data interpretation), 2. Data presentation, 3. Drawing conclusions.

Results and Discussion

Psychological Analysis of Characters in Shandy Tan's Novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa" Based on Sigmund Freud's Personality Theory.

The novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa" provides a depiction of Imelda's family life, highlighting various issues typical of modern life. In this discussion, the researcher focuses on five characters in the novel: Imelda (the main character), her mother, Erik, Uncle Dennis, and Aunt Anna (supporting characters). To achieve a thorough analysis, the researcher employs Freudian theory to analyze the psychology of these five characters as portrayed in the story.

Imelda

Imelda is the main character in the novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa" by Shandy Tan. Described as a kind, loving, hardworking, and responsible child, Imelda portrays her role as the protagonist effectively throughout the story. This evident seen from the first page to the last, where Imelda dominated in this novel. Imelda is introduced as the central figure since the first page to page ten, where she speaks in the first person, as illustrated in the following quote:

Quotation of Imelda's character:

"I've washed the dishes, hung the clothes, swept. You're just lounging around like a madam. When mom back home, if it's still messy, she will nag all day. Trisha glared irritably at her sister. I'm not your maid... I'm not either!" Imelda snapped, annoyed because she had done the chores without pay earlier. "If you want to mop now, let me tidy up the bed." (Shandy Tan: 8)

Id: Imelda's anger towards Trisha for refusing to help.

Ego: Imelda is upset seeing Trisha's unwillingness to help.

Super Ego: Imelda gave in and cleans the house without asking for Trisha's assistance.

Based on the analysis above regarding Id, Ego, and Super Ego, Imelda exhibits traits of yielding, not forcing her will on Trisha, who shows indifference towards the cleanliness of their house and their beds.

"Imelda done her tasks with a heavy heart, feeling envious of Rossa, her neighbor and classmate who managed to secure a part-time job as a salesgirl for imported clothing at a boutique owner. She started working from four o'clock to eight in the evening while still attending school, getting a ride home afterward. Imelda estimated Rossa's pay must be decent; within just three months, Rossa could afford nice clothes. Imelda wished to be like Rossa, earning money through her own efforts—not just for nice clothes but to alleviate her family's financial burden. At the very least, she hoped to cover her school expenses." (Shandy Tan: 10)

Id: Imelda feels down and sad seeing Rossa succeed in her part-time job as a salesgirl.

Ego: Imelda feels jealous of Rossa for landing a part-time job as a salesgirl for imported clothing at a boutique owner.

Super Ego: Imelda aspires to be like Rossa, earning money through her own hard work, not just for buying nice clothes but to ease her mother's financial burden.

Based on the analysis above regarding Id, Ego, and Super Ego, Imelda demonstrates patience and full of affection, not forcing her circumstances. She aims to secure a job to ease her family's financial burden and cover her school expenses.

Uncle Dennis

Uncle Dennis serves as an antagonist in the novel, portrayed as wealthy and manipulative. His interactions with Imelda highlight his aggressive and selfish tendencies, particularly in coercing her into situations. Uncle Dennis is the fourth character in the novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa by Shandy Tan. Uncle Dennis is an antagonist who is wealthy and enjoys young (girls). Uncle Dennis is willing to pay a high price (fifteen million) to Imelda if she agrees to sell her virginity. Uncle Dennis has rough, cruel, and beastly characteristics. This is evident in the following excerpt from the novel:

Quotation of Uncle Dennis's Character:

"Take a sip, Mona, just a little. I don't want to, Uncle, sorry." "Drink it quickly!" the man began to shout, losing his patience. With one hand, he held Imelda's jaw to face him. Imelda tightly closed her lips, trying to push away Uncle Dennis's hand, but her efforts were in vain, as her strength was no match for the intoxicated man.

Id: Uncle Dennis rudely shouts at Imelda to drink the alcoholic beverage he offered.

Ego: Uncle Dennis holds Imelda's jaw with one hand to keep her facing him.

Super Ego: Uncle Dennis, intoxicated, turns cruel and harsh when losing control.

Based on the analysis above regarding Id, Ego, and Super Ego, Uncle Dennis demonstrates rough behavior, particularly evident when he shouts at Imelda and forcefully tries to make her drink alcohol, despite her polite refusal.

Quotation of Uncle Dennis's Character:

"Mona, is new person?" Uncle Dennis addressed her with a softened voice, but it failed to alleviate Imelda's fear. "Before this, Uncle hasn't seen you with Nancy. Yes, Uncle, same

school. " Imelda nodded stiffly. "How can such pretty girls do door-to-door clothes selling? Who would assist Uncle in trying on these clothes," he continued, attempting to touch Imelda's body. "Uncle wants only Mona to help him open Uncle's clothes."

Id: Uncle Dennis playfully asks Mona (Imelda).

Ego: Uncle Dennis addresses Imelda with a soft tone, causing fear in her.

Super Ego: Uncle Dennis requests that Mona (Imelda) be the one to help him try on the clothes he intends to buy.

Based on the analysis above regarding Id, Ego, and Super Ego, Uncle Dennis displays cruel and predatory behavior. He shows no hesitation in touching Mona's (Imelda's) or Nancy's (Rossa's) bodies when asking them to open his clothes.

Aunt Anna

Aunt Anna, as the owner of the boutique where Imelda and Rossa work, plays a pivotal role in supporting Imelda financially and morally. She embodies both nurturing and authoritative traits, guiding Imelda through challenges while setting clear boundaries. Aunt Anna is the fifth (last) character in the novel *Bukan Pelajar Biasa* by Shandy Tan. Aunt Anna is the boss and owner of the boutique where Imelda and Rossa work as salesgirls. Aunt Anna helps Imelda by providing a loan so Erik can be freed from jail. Aunt Anna dominates the story from page 30 to 238. Aunt Anna has a complex personality, with traits of kindness, cruelty, selfishness, and greed. This is evident in the quote:

Character Quote of Aunt Anna:

"Upon seeing Imelda's arrival, Aunt Anna greeted her warmly and kindly. 'Before you start working, I want to let you know, Mel, that this job isn't easy. Rossa has already told me, but my mind is made up. No matter how tough it gets, I'll stick with it.' 'You're a good girl,' praised Aunt Anna. 'I don't mind taking one more person on. But it's better if you work alongside Rossa to see what you'll be facing later on. If you're determined, you can work; if you're unsure, you can quit. One thing though—you can't tell anyone about your job, promise.'" (Shandy Tan: 41)

ID: Aunt Anna welcomes Imelda warmly and kindly.

Ego: Aunt Anna doesn't mind having Imelda work for her.

Super Ego: Aunt Anna allows Imelda to work alongside Rossa. And you can't tell anyone about your job, promise.

"Today the driver is free, Ros, so you will be taken to the customers' places and then to your respective homes after finishing. Aunt has prepared your sales downstairs. Here's the address you need to visit," Aunt Anna handed a business card to Rossa. "The driver already knows the location; tell him to wait until you're done."

ID: Aunt Anna is relaxed and firm in her demeanor.

Ego: Aunt Anna has prepared the merchandise that Rossa and Imelda will offer to their promised customers.

Super Ego: You will be taken to the customers' places and then to your respective homes after finishing. Here is the address you must visit.

Based on the analysis above, between the Id, Ego, and Super Ego, Aunt Anna exhibits a relaxed yet firm personality. You will be taken to customers' places and then to your own homes once finished. Aunt has already prepared your sales items below.

Conclusion

In the novel "Bukan Pelajar Biasa" by Shandy Tan, the character Imelda's personality is portrayed as dominated by the Id, which overrides the ego and super ego. This causes Imelda to resign herself to her job as a salesgirl of imported clothing. Imelda is forced to work to alleviate her mother's financial burdens and to free Erik from prison. When her ego overcomes her id, Imelda seeks Rossa's help to introduce her to Aunt Anna. However, over time, the id resurfaces and overwhelms the ego, suppressing the super ego. After Imelda is accepted to work with Aunt Anna, she is allowed to accompany Rossa to observe how to serve customers.

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