

THE ANALYSIS OF CHARACTERS' PSYCHOLOGY IN SAMANTHA NOVEL BY RISA SARASWATI

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ABSTRACT

A literary work is an oral or a written expression of an author based on his thought, argument, and experience. One of the literary works is a novel. The novel has two groups. They are fiction and non-fiction. Authors of novels write any literary works related to life, such as the social, psychological, and cultural factors of the author. One of the influential factors of an individual's life is the psychological aspect written by the author. It has the purpose to be enjoyed by readers. One of them is the life of a family that has a strong correlation with personality especially the psychological aspects of individuals. Samantha is a character in a novel written by Risa Saraswati. It is a concerning life story experienced by Samantha that makes her down and suffered psychologically by her family. This descriptive-qualitative research used a research data source in the form of excerpts in the novel. The data sources were the novel and the relevant reference with the research topic. The data collection techniques were flow-chart model analysis with data presentation and reduction. This research aims to find out the personality aspects of the characters in the novel based on Sigmund Freud's psychological theory of personality. The results were *id*, *ego*, and *superego* based on Sigmund Freud's theory of personality.

Keywords: literature, psychology, Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis

ABSTRAK

Sastra merupakan salah satu ungkapan atau ekspresi berupa lisan atau tulisan dari penulis berdasarkan pemikiran, pendapat ataupun pengalaman. Salah satu karya sastra adalah sebuah novel. Novel dibedakan menjadi dua yaitu fiksi dan nonfiksi. Di dalam novel pengarang dapat menulis berbagai karya sastra yang terjadi di kehidupannya seperti faktor sosial, psikologi, dan budaya pengarang. Salah satu faktor yang sangat mempengaruhi kehidupan seseorang adalah aspek psikologi yang ditulis oleh pengarang untuk dinikmati pembaca. Salah satunya adalah kehidupan didalam suatu keluarga yang memiliki kaitan kuat terhadap kepribadian terutama aspek psikologi disetiap individu. Samantha merupakan tokoh yang terdapat dalam novel karya Risa Saraswati. Kisah kehidupan yang dialami Samantha sangat memprihatinkan hingga membuat dia terjatuh lemah dengan tersiksanya dengan penderitaan dalam jiwa psikologisnya terhadap keluarganya sendiri. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif-kualitatif. Data penelitian ini berupa kutipan-kutipan yang terdapat pada novel Samantha karya Risa Saraswati dan sumber data novel serta buku acuan yang

berkenaan dengan penelitian. Teknik pengumpulan data yaitu dengan teknik analisis model aliran dengan penyajian data dan reduksi data. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah mengetahui aspek kepribadian tokoh-tokoh yang terdapat dalam novel Samantha karya Risa Saraswati berdasarkan teori kepribadian psikologi Sigmund Freud. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah tokoh-tokoh tersebut memiliki aspek kepribadian yang mengacu pada teori Sigmund Freud yaitu, id, ego dan superego.

Kata kunci: sastra, Psikologi, psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud

A. INTRODUCTION

A literary work is an oral or a written expression of an author based on his thought, argument, and experience. Every author has a different point of view and experience of writing and expressing something into a literature work. A literature work has two forms. They are fiction, such as a novel, short story, poetry, and prose; and non-fiction, such as biography, autobiography, essay, and literary criticism. Literature works do not exist naturally and specifically. Therefore, literature works are unique signs (Susanti, 2013:713). The unique signs of each literary work bring value to it. One of the unique literature works is by experiencing the dynamic changes, from a certain period into a different period within a society, such as social and cultural situations. Literature works are full of events. The authors prepare them with some characters that have important roles in a story. One of the literary works that describe a certain community and take the community's role is a novel. In a literature work, an author of a novel could provide descriptions and story plots toward the era and those related to the era of the author. One of them is the related condition with behaviors of characters or the relationship with the human in a social or individual scope. Behaviors and personality in individual life are strongly correlated with psychological states. This psychology also reflects the characters of the personality of an individual to meet his necessity.

Siswanto, cited in Setianingrum (2018:14), argues that literature psychology studies certain psychological phenomena experienced by the main character in a literary work when the character encounters the environment and himself with the psychological signs. From the character behaviors, readers could reveal certain psychological phenomena. Literature and psychology are strongly correlated to represent humans' thoughts. The psychological theory comes from the assumption that humans created, presented, and described in a literature work (Holland, 1990:29-30). It can influence the social and environmental life of humans. Sehandi (2014:46) also explains that literature psychology is an analysis of literary works by considering some psychological and mental aspects in it. Environment influences an individual's psychology with the current phenomena of an individual.

The literature psychology is a literature review that reflects the mental process and activity (Minderop, 2013:52). Many authors make various literature works via plots and stories that have psychological elements. Readers also could notice to what extent the authors could provide the psychological nuances in their works. Psychology and literature are scientific disciplines that use both methods and approaches to analyze the essence of human presence. Aras (2015:250-257) discussed the thoughts and mental states of humans in which psychology is a strongly correlated discipline with literature. The author did it in research titled "*Personality and Individual Differences Literature in*

Psychology-Psychology in Literature review. Wellek and Werren (1993:108) argue that literary works are correlated with psychology. It is important to investigate because psychology could facilitate the collection of researchers' sensitivity to reality, train skills, and observations, and provide an opportunity to study the unobserved patterns. Studies could sharpen the trustworthiness and skills of learning the literature work patterns. Thus, they can be reviewed more comprehensively.

It is strongly correlated with Freud's literature work, in his analytic theory. He found a strong connection with literature. The psychoanalysis theory encourages the subconsciousness that influences human behaviors. An author, when writes a literature work, is influenced by the subconsciousness element. Thus, it could facilitate the literature work production. Freud expresses that the objectives of psychoanalysis are to strengthen the ego, create it more independently than the superego, enlarge the perception of sight, and broaden the organization. Thus, he can have fresh parts from the Id. Freud argues that to achieve the psychoanalysis objectives, he needs some steps. They are (1) using the free associations systematically and the dream analysis, (2) resistance analysis, (3) transference analysis, and (4) interpretation with the objectives to solve the main emotional problems during childhood (Semiun, 2010:16-17).

Samantha is a novel by Risa Saraswati. It has a unique story plot about a little family living in the Netherlands that lives in Jakarta. The family lives dramatically with a lot of psychological pressures. These pressures influence a little girl named Samantha. Samantha lives with her parents. Their businesses make Samantha feels lonely so that she is accompanied by her caretakers. The ending of the story is - the death of Samantha due to the suffered disease. Even in her last breath, Samantha is still accompanied by her caretakers because her parents' actions are not normal. The empirical reasons of the researcher to take this novel were the characters of the novel. The characters influence the psychological life of Samantha until her last breath.

From the explanation and the background, this research reviewed the inner mental conflict of the characters from the novel. The author focused the readers' minds on the family problems of the novel. The objectives of this research are to describe and explain the personality aspects of the figures in the novel based on Sigmund Freud's theory. From the explanation, the author analyzed the personality aspects of the characters in the novel written by Risa Saraswati. The novel contains intense personality aspects so that the researchers used Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis review, from Id, Ego, and Superego.

B. THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. Literature Psychology

The literature psychology is a review that discusses literature works with mental activities. In a broader meaning, literature works are inseparable from life that describes various human personality sets. Sehandi (2014:46) explains that literature psychology is an analysis of literary works with some considerations. Environment influences an individual's psychology with the current phenomena of an individual. Literature psychology is strongly correlated with character within three analysis scopes. They are the author's psychology, personality psychology, and the reader's psychology. Besides that, by understanding the psychology of the characters, a community could understand the changes, contradictions, and other biases in a community, especially a mentality.

2. Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis

The psychoanalysis theory is connected with the function and mental development of humans. It is also connected with the psychological part that greatly contributes and formed into parts of human psychology. Psychoanalysis is a psychological type that discusses subconsciousness. The attention is directed on motivation, emotion, conflict, neurotic system, dream, and attributes of characters. Freud, cited in Suryabrata (2002:3), argues that psychoanalysis is a therapy to cure an individual with a mental disorder. The elements of Freud's personality structure are id, ego, and superego.

a) *Id*

Bertens (2006:32033) is a basic psychics element that becomes the basis to foster the psychics' life or further. *Id* is operated based on *the pleasure principle* by seeking the joys and avoiding the pain. *Id* does not always deal with the capability to judge correctly or incorrectly and moralized or amoral. It must be developed to obtain the real image. That is the reason *id* encourages the presence of ego.

b) *Ego*

The ego is the psychological aspect of personality due to the organism's need to create a proper relationship with the real world or reality (Freud, cited in Suryabrata, 2010:126). The ego is a personal system that acts as the individual influence toward an object of reality. It has a function based on the reality principle. According to Freud, cited in Bertens (2006:33), ego is formed with differentiation of *id* due to the contact with the external world especially around the toddler's parents, caretakers, and brothers or sisters. Ego has the job to maintain the personality and to guarantee the adjustment with the surrounding environment to solve conflicts with reality. The conflicts are such as the unfit intentions from one individual to other individuals. Thus, ego is an exclusive personality to fulfill the needs of the *id* and to meet moral needs. It also requires the development need to reach the perfection of the superego.

Super Ego

Superego is a personal sociological aspect. It represents the traditional values and the community images as interpreted by parents for the children. They are such as various prohibitions. Superego is the perfection of various commands. Therefore, the superego is considered as a life moral aspect. Superego is a non-rational matter and demands perfection and assertive punishment due to the ego's mistakes, both the acted matters or the thought matters. The main roles of the superego are:

- a) As the encouragement or impulse controls of the *id* sense so that the impulses could be realized with various acceptable forms by a community.
- b) It directs ego to the relevant objectives with the moral rather than the reality.
- c) Superego encourages individuals to be perfect. It also insists ego handles the different desires in the subconsciousness (Hall and Lindzey, 1993:67-68).

C. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This descriptive qualitative research used a literature study so it did not need a specific site to promote it. The research activities were preparation, data collection, and data analysis. The research realization was to describe the investigated objects and describe the aspects as the research focuses. The data validity in this research consisted

of documents, books, articles, and articles. One of the documents was "Samantha" novel by Risa Saraswati, published by PT. Buku Kreatif Cipta, 2018, containing 192 pages. The relevant books and articles with literature psychology became the principle theory.

This research was analyzed with flow sequence model analysis. The stages of the analysis method, based on Miles and Harmen (2014:15-19) are

1. Data Reduction

This stage collects and groups the data based on the investigated problems. The obtained data were words and sentences in the novel.

2. Data Display

After reducing the data by collecting and grouping, the researcher described and explained the characters' personalities with Sigmund Freud's psychology theory: Id, ego, and superego.

3. Data Conclusion

The researcher concluded and described the collected data.

D. DISCUSSION

Psychoanalysis consists of the id, ego, and superego. The system works in every individual when he responds to a certain event.

1. The Character Personality Aspect: the Id in the Novel

Id is psychic and natural energy to emphasize humans to fulfill their basic necessity. It also refers to the original personality since an individual is born. When an individual is born, *id* consists of all inherited psychological aspects, such as instincts, impulses, and motivations. Freud, cited in Calvin Hall's book titled "*Libido Kekuasaan Sigmund Freud*", defines the Id as a hidden personality that cannot be breached. Only a little recognition for this part is obtained via investigations on dreams and neural disease symptoms (Hall, 2017: 35). Id on human causes tends to be aggressive and to focus on fulfilling the physical necessities. Id in the novel, "Samantha".

"Dua orang dewasa itu terlalu sibuk memikirkan diri sendiri dan usaha-usaha mereka yang berkembang di Hindia Belanda hingga tak mampu memerdulikan nasib anak mereka yang masih sangat membutuhkan perhatian dari orang tuanya, bersikap kasar hanyalah salah satu cara anak itu untuk mencari perhatian mereka" (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 3)

The excerpt describes the *id* aspect of Samantha's parents who are selfish to think only about themselves than to think about Samantha. This selfishness of the parents exists due to Id's encouragement. This matter is the basic attitude of humans that wants to reach something higher, better, and more. In the novel, it makes the parents forget the responsibility and the life of their daughter. The little Samantha needs attention from their parents.

"Alih-alih merasa kesal terhadap kebebalaan anak itu, Rumi merasa kasihan. Karena, selama anak itu berulah, kedua orang tuanya bagai tak peduli. Anak kecil itu seperti dianggap tidak ada dan diabaikan begitu saja." (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 4)

The excerpt describes that Rumi, Samantha's caretaker, feels sorry for what the parents do for Samantha. She loves Samantha with this unwanted situation by Samantha. However, she could not do anything since she is only the caretaker at the house. Samantha hopes for the attention and compassion of her parents like when she was a kid. The love, the attention, and even the care of her parents have gone. Samantha feels her parents are ignorant. Her parents think that working is important that loving the little Samantha. This ignorance appears in an individual if he loses the motivation and emotion within the aspects of emotional, social, and physical.

“Namun, kondisi keluarga ini sungguh jauh berbeda. Mereka hanya bertiga, keluarga kecil dengan kekayaan berlimpah dari hasil kebun yang mereka miliki. Suami-istri ini lebih dikuasai oleh hasrat agar kekayaan mereka semakin menumpuk. Kelihatannya, anak bagi mereka hanyalah bonus yang tak diharapkan, juga formalitas agar mereka terlihat utuh sebagai sebuah keluarga” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 8)

The excerpt shows the parents have desire and only love their wealth. Hall argues that the distribution and avoidance of spiritual energy in an individual's Id are to satisfy his instinct via the reflective action and intention to satisfy his interest (2017: 60). One of them is the wealth that makes Samantha's parents feel tranquil. It makes them ignore Samantha.

“Mengharapkan perubahan sikap orang tuanya terlalu sulit. Jika sebelumnya dia mencoba memberontak dengan bersikap menyebalkan untuk mencuri perhatian papa dan mamanya, lambat laun dia mulai paham, sampai kapanpun, kedua orang tuanya akan tetap bersikap seperti itu” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 16)

The excerpt describes Samantha's hope. She wants her parents back to a condition when she was a kid. However, for her, it is only a dream, an imagination, and hope. According to Hall, *Id* maintains childish attitudes during life. It has the power to satisfy responses. One of them is by having the dream. In this case, the love of her parents is her dream.

“sungguh sayang, kedua orang tuanya tak tau dia takut. Bagi mereka, seorang anak perempuan pasti akan bahagia jika dihadahi boneka” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 22)

The excerpt explains the hopes Samantha. She does not want a doll as her present because she is afraid of it. This excerpt, according to Freud, cited in Hall, shows that *Id* is a feeling to achieve an immediate individual's satisfaction by insisting. *Id* is realized to a feeling of happiness. In the novel, the happiness for Samantha is - if her parents do not give her a doll as the Christmas present. It makes Samantha sad and disappointed.

2. The Character's Personality Aspect: the Ego in the Novel

Ego refers to the realization of the personality. It controls and commands *Id* and *superego*. It maintains the connection for all personal interests and necessities.

“Samantha sering menangis sendirian dalam kamarnya yang sangat luas. Sesungguhnya dia kesepian. Terkadang saat pertahanan egonya rutil, dia mengakui bahwa hidupnya sangat tidak bahagia. Keinginannya hanya satu beranjak dewasa dan mencari kehidupan seperti yang dia mau” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 16)

The excerpt describes the action of Samantha as an ego action. It creates a fantasy of reality. The fantasy due to ego is recognized as imaginative and joyful fantasy. Samantha thinks that her life is not joyful. Her intention to make her life better she thinks can be obtained if she is already mature. The ego attitude of Samantha describes the actions and the self-demands to be free as she had when she was a kid. Samantha often cries to defend and keep her life going unhappily.

“benar, lagi-lagi boneka perempuan. Dia pandangi boneka itu dengan tatapan sedih. Ingin rasanya menangis. Tapi, ini hari natal, dia tak mau menngis dihari yang sakral ini. “(Risa Saraswati, 2018: 22)

The excerpt explains that Samantha feels sad about the parents' treatment. Moreover, during Christmas, when Samantha received the unwanted present, a doll, for her. Her ego defended herself not to cry in the sacred event. It is the realization of the personality that obeys the id and the superego.

“dia kembali dikuasai kesedihan. Biasanya jika sudah seperti ini, dia akan memanggil Rumi dan merajuk, bertingkah nakal, serta uring-uringan pada Rumi. Tapi hari itu dia hanya diam terpaku, lau berjalan lunglai kekamar (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 37)”

The excerpt explains that the Ego when she is angry, behaves mischievously, mumbling with her strange behaviors, are caused by the parents' attitudes toward her. However, when she remains silent and quiet makes the surrounding people wondering. The previous ego that shows her disappointment and sadness turns into a quiet and silent behavior when she walks into her room. A child will be angry and dejected when the parents do not pay attention to her. Her soul feels anxious about the reality of what her parents do toward her.

3. The Character's Personality Aspect: the Super-Ego in the Novel

Superego consists of two sub-systems: ideal ego and conscience. The ideal ego is based on the definition of what is morally right based on the parents. Contrary, the conscience is based on the child's understanding about what is allowed to do by the parents will have negative morals. This matter is established by experience and laws (Hall, 2017:44).

“Alih-ali menuruti keinginan anaknya, suara sang ayah malah meninggi:jika kau memang ingin ke gereja, pergi saja bersama rumi! Kami sedang sibuk mengurus pekerjaan kami!” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 24)

The excerpt shows that Samantha's father expresses a high tone of voice. Samantha that only wants to go to the church with her parents is ignored. The parents are busy so that Samantha goes to the church with her caretakers. The superego concept is the creation of conscience. The assumption of Samantha about her father who does not want to go to the church seems like a punishment for her because she embarrasses her parents in front of his business colleges. “Tenang saja, aku tidak sakit. Aku tak akan menulari siapa pun disini. Harap maklum mamaku memang suka berbohong. Mama, papa, aku akan ke gereja bersama rumi. Kalian titip pesan apa pada Tuhan? Kalian tidak rindu kepadaNya ya? Padahal hampir setiap hari dia menyanakan kalian kepduku.....”(Risa Saraswati, 2018: 29)

The excerpt describes Samantha's mother that likes to lie in front of the guest inside of the De Witt family's house. Superego punishes the ego to think negatively although the thought does not turn into action. At the first time, Samantha's mother is lying toward the business partners not to introduce her child, Samantha. The negative superego of Samantha's mother is so intense after the death of Hannah De Witt's biological child.

“namun, Baron mengakui, mungkin sikap Samantha seperti itu karena ulahnya sendiri, juga istrinya yang terkesan tak memperdulikan keberadaan putri tunggal mereka (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 45)

The spiritual rewards and punishments are used by every individual's superego, for example, the pride, guilt, and lack of acknowledgment of self-concept. The guilt or feeling of lack of self-concept is equal to self-hatred. All of them are the inner substitutions of the parents' love and parents' denials. At that time, Baron admits his mistakes toward Samantha. Baron thinks he is too much to treat Samantha rudely.

“burung gereja yang masih sangat kecil, kakinya tampak luka, sayapnya berusaha mengepak agar bisa terbang.” kasihan sekali”... Samantha bergumam, berusaha mambantu rumi untuk menolong makhluk kecil itu. Dengan sangat berhati-hati Samantha menggengam burung gereja itu” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 43)

The excerpt explains Samantha's attitude that rudely behaves toward her caretakers. However, when Rumi accompanies her, she reveals that Samantha does not always rudely behave. She has love and care. One of them is when she helps a little sparrow. It means Samantha is not always in a bad state, fueled with the ego of her parents' loves. Despite it, Samantha has an excellent personality by caring about something hurt or cornered. The encouraging superego of Samantha to help the little sparrow is - because of the scar on the sparrow's wing.

“sikapnya yang murung membuat para pekerja termasuk kembali bingung kadang, mereka lebih berharap si majikan kecil menjadi pemarah seperti dulu, karena setidaknya Samantha bisa berekspresi dan berinteraksi dengan orang-orang, walau dengan teriakan. Tak ada pegawai yang menyayanginya, meskipun awalnya hanya merasa kasihan. Lama-lama, mereka menyimpulkan bahwa kenakalan Samantha selama ini hanyalah upaya untuk mencari perhatian tuan dan nyonya” (Risa Saraswati, 2018: 47)

The excerpt shows that the ignorant attitudes of the workers toward Samantha are still normal. They think Samantha has snapped again. They also think what Samantha does is only to get attention because she wants the love of her parents by doing so. Samantha attempts many things that should not be done at her age. However, the normal assumption of the workers raises due to the reality of the parents. Samantha's parent behaviors are abnormal. These matters make Samantha suffered both mentally and psychologically.

E. CONCLUSION

The results explain that a little girl, named Samantha, receive abnormal behaviors from her parents. The verbal abuse and the treatment for her make Samantha aggressive and express her anger toward her caretakers. The Id and ego of Samantha

and the other characters influence the characters in the house. The superego of Samantha's parents and the superego of Samantha prove they do something bad. A child, at the age of Samantha, should receive love and attention. Samantha depresses until she is sick. Then, finally, she passes away. The superego of Samantha's parents is - having a strong intention to leave far away, leaving Samantha behind, because of Samantha's unintentional behaviors. The behaviors make her mother experiences miscarriage and lose a baby. The climax is when Samantha passes away on the caretaker's lap without her parents around her. Before passing away, her parents left Samantha with her caretakers.

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