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PERSONALITY ANALYSIS OF EINAR ON THE DANISH GIRL NOVEL BY **DAVID EBERSHOFF**

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to find out some of the Archetypes personality that exist in Einar Wegener's character, based on the Archetypes personality theory that conducted by Carl Jung. This study also aims to discuss more deeply about the main character which is Einar Wegener who has several Archetypes personality tendencies in him. The Archetypes personality itself is a concept of a subconscious collection that has existed in every human being since ancient times. This research uses descriptive qualitative method in applying the Archetypes personality theory to Einar Wegener's character in the novel. The data from this study were taken from the novel entitled The Danish Girl by David Ebershoff. This study reveals that there are five dominant Archetypes in Einar's personality, namely Persona, Shadow, Anima, Hero and Self. As for the characterization of the five archetypes, it is concluded that Einar is someone who overthinking, selfish, feminine, brave and confident.

Keywords: persona, shadow, anima, hero, self

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui beberapa arketipe kepribadian yang ada pada tokoh Einar Wegener berdasarkan teori kepribadian arketipe yang dilakukan oleh Carl Jung. Penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk membahas lebih dalam tentang tokoh utama yaitu Einar Wegener yang memiliki beberapa kecenderungan kepribadian Arketipe dalam dirinya. Kepribadian arketipe sendiri merupakan sebuah konsep kumpulan alam bawah sadar yang telah ada pada setiap manusia sejak zaman dahulu. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dalam menerapkan teori kepribadian arketipe pada tokoh Einar Wegener dalam novel tersebut. Data dari penelitian ini diambil dari novel berjudul The Danish Girl karya David Ebershoff. Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa ada lima Arketipe yang dominan dalam kepribadian Einar, yaitu Persona, Shadow, Anima, Hero dan Self. Adapun karakterisasi dari kelima arketipe, disimpulkan bahwa Einar adalah seseorang yang berpikir berlebihan, egois, feminin, berani dan percaya diri.

Kata kunci: persona, bayangan, anima, pahlawan, diri



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A. INTRODUCTION

Literary work consists of many kinds of forms. One of the most popular form of literary work and it has been known for many years is novel. A novelist usually makes stories based on various events around them. Just like the object of this research which is The Danish Girl novel written by David Ebershoff. This novel is very famous and best-selling book because it is inspired by the life of Einar Wegener (Lili Elbe) as the one of the first people in the world to undergo sex reassignment surgery. The novel shows the readers the life of Einar Wegener and his process to be a transgender person. Einar has gone through many phases in his life to be where he is now. Because of that all the phases in Einar's life must have a big impact on his personality condition. Thus, the researcher finds it is interesting to investigate the personality of a transgender character in this novel. To analyze the personality, the researcher chose Carl Jung's theory of archetype as the tool to find kinds of archetypes in Einar's personality. In Jungian's theory, psyche is a unit in which inside there are the thoughts, feelings and behaviors that are consciously or unconsciously, interacting with each other and make what we called personality of a person. In his theory, Jung divides psyche into three parts, namely: ego, personal unconscious and collective unconscious (Jung 3). Based on Jung's theory, there is something called archetypes personalities which exists inside the collective consciousness of a person.

Furthermore, archetypes are ancient images and thought derived from the collective unconscious that perhaps we see through dreams, literature, art, and religion. Inside the archetypes there are a great number of vague images but only a few have evolved to where they can be conceptualized (Fiest, 106). The most notable of these archetypes include the persona, shadow, anima, animus, hero and self. In other word these archetypes are form of personalities in a person. The researcher chose Jung theory of archetypes because these personalities are shown on Einar character from the novel. The Danish Girl novel by David Ebershoff is chosen as the object research to be analyzes because this novel is still rarely being examined. Also this novel is very unique to other novel because of the story about the first transgender person in the world. In this research, the researcher will use Carl Gustav Jung's theory of Archetypes. By using Carl Jung's theory, the researcher will try to find the archetypes personality shown on Einar throughout the story.

B. LITERATURE PREVIEW

1. Literature and Psychology

Wellek and Warren states that psychology in literature has some possible aspects by psychological of literature, we may mean that the psychological study of the writer as type and as individual or the study of the creative process or the study of the psychological types and laws present within works of literature and the effects of literature upon its readers (81). Psychology itself is a branch of science whose object of discussion is the human mind and soul. It examines how to understand human behaviors, the reason for each action, the causes and consequences. Tyson states, if



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psychoanalysis can help us better understand human behavior then it must certainly be able to help us understand literary texts, which are about human behavior (11). Science about analyzing human mind has been found since many years ago, that nowadays it called as psychoanalysis. The foundation of psychoanalysis is Sigmund S Freud, a neurologist in the field of unconsciousness. However, a colleague of Freud, Carl Gustav Jung discharged from the orthodox psychoanalysis because he disagreed and criticized Freud's theory of sexual function on a child has relation to their family members and comrades, he believes it is simply as the immature beginnings of the sexual function (Jung 50).

Then, Jung went to develop his own psychoanalytic and most of his assumptions of analytical psychology reflect his differences with Freud. Jung agreed with Freud that a person's past and childhood experiences will determine their future behaviors but, Jung also add that we are shaped by our future aspirations (50). Jung stated, analytical psychology does not seek to isolate individual functions (sensory functions, emotional phenomena, thought processes, etc.) It is much more concerned with the total manifestation of the soul as a natural phenomenon a very complex structure, therefore, even though the examination is critical, it can still divide it into simpler complex components (91). Analytical psychology rests on the assumption that occult phenomena could and affect everyone's life. Jung believes that each of us is not only motivated by experiences that are suppressed but also by certain emotional experiences inherited from our ancestors. These inherited images are forms what Jung calls collective unconsciousness. Some elements of the collective unconscious become highly developed and are called Archetypes (92).

2. Character and Characterization

As Mudrick states in *Narrative Fiction*, that characters are imitations of people and that we tend to treat them with greater or lesser sophistication as if they were our neighbor or friends, whilst also abstracting them from the verbal texture of the work under consideration (Kenan 34). Based on above explanation, it can be said character is one of the important aspects on a literary work. Character as an important aspect in a story because they are the main object that makes a story can continue to run and develop. As in the Harry Potter series, only from the title has confirmed that this story will tell a story about a young man named Harry, so that Harry as the main character will be the main object or core for this story to continue. Meanwhile, Kenan states that, in principle, any element in the text may serve as an indicator of character and, conversely, character-indicators may serve other purposes as well (61). Which means characterization are all the elements that exist in the text of a story whether it is delivered directly or indirectly. According to Kenan there are two types to convey the characterization of a character, which are: direct definition and indirect definition. Direct definition conveys and explains clearly the characterization of a character to the reader by naming the traits of the character directly without using other intermediaries. In other



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word, the reader is being told what the character is like, bad or good. While indirect definition allows the reader to explore and decide for themselves the characterization of a character throughout the story. Thus, Kenan in Narrative Fiction have mentioned some of the ways in delivers indirect characterization, there are: action, speech, external appearance, and environment.

3. Transgender

Transgender are people who have a gender identity or gender expression that is opposite from their designated sex since birth. Also transgender commonly refer to a transsexual who does sex change surgery. According to American Psychological Association state an individual who dare to do sex replacement surgery usually because they suffer from gender identity disorder, which are a condition where a person feels a strong anxiety and struggling in his daily activities because of his genital (American Psychological Associations).

4. Personality (Psyche)

Personality is a compendium of opposites in aim to reach selfrealization, which only can be achieve through the process of various opposing forces of personality (Feist 98). Jung also stated, Personality is the highest realization of the innate privileges of living things. This is an act of high courage that is thrown before life, the absolute affirmation of all who are individuals, the most successful adaptations to the conditions of universal existence combined with the greatest possible freedom for self-determination (Jung 171).

a. Ego

Consciousness arises when people were babies, even before birth. It plays an important role in determining perceptions, thoughts, feelings and memories that can enter consciousness. This thought are the objects of mental perception that do not think at all instead feel external phenomenal that are seen or heard. It can be said it is a revelation which means it was not created but forced or instilled on us.

b. Personal Unconscious

Personal unconscious is the personal experiences or memories of human beings that previously existed in each human. It is rests upon a deeper layer, which does not derive from personal experience and is not a personal acquisition but is inborn. This consciousness is realized but has been forgotten or suppressed because it cannot be obtained individually. However, the memory can be recalled if desired. The contents of this personal subconscious are called the complexes (Jung 42).

c. Collective Unconscious

Collective unconsciousness is a basic images or symbolic figure that existed from the beginning on human self. In the knowledge of the primitive tribes developed into a tradition. In other words, collective unconsciousness is a way of thinking or behaving in humans that has been passed down from generation to generation since the beginning of man (Jung 5).



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5. Archetypes

Archetypes are the ancient images obtained from the collective unconscious. It is almost the same as the complexes associated with intensive emotions. These archetypes differ from the instincts, Jung defined as physical impulses that were unconscious and expressed through action. Jung views these archetypes as physical pairs of instincts. These archetypes and instincts are from unconsciousness and both can strengthen and shape personality (Feist 105).

a. Persona

Persona is what you want to impress people with and what they force you to assume as a role. It is the side which we show to the world. The term is well chosen because it refers to the mask worn by actors in the early theater. Even though persona is the side that is needed by our personalities, we must not confuse our public faces with our true self. If we identify ourselves too closely with persona, we will remain unaware of our individuality, and be prevented from achieving self-realization (Jung 484).

b. Shadow

Shadow is the archetype of darkness and repression, it represents qualities that we don't want to acknowledge and try to hide from others, even ourselves. Shadow consists of constructive and other creative creations that we are afraid of facing. Jung believes that we all must continue to struggle to find out our shadows, and that this task is the first test of our courage. Humans never escape understanding that their shadows will fall into the darkness of power and produce tragic lives, continually experiencing "bad luck" which led to defeat and cowardice on themselves (Jung 8-9).

c. Anima

Jung believes that all humans are psychologically bisexual and have a masculine and feminine side. Anima is the feminine side of men which rooted in the collective subconscious as an archetype and continues to fight the consciousness in the extreme. To master the anima projections, men must conquer their intellectual barriers, descending deep into the conscious world and grappling with the feminine side of their personality (Jung 13).

d. Animus

Vice versa animus is the masculine side of woman. If anima represents irrational moods and feelings, animus is symbolic of thinking and reasoning. Jung also believes that the animus is responsible for thinking patterns and opinions on women just as anima produces feelings and moods in men, yet it does not actually belong to her. It belongs to the collective unconscious and originates from the encounters of prehistoric women with men. If a woman is dominated by her animus, no logical or emotional demands can shake her from the beliefs that have existed in her (Jung 14).

e. Hero

The hero archetype is represented in mythology and legend as someone who is very powerful, sometimes even part of God, who fights evil in the form of dragons, monsters, or demons. The origin of the hero stems



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from the early days of human history until consciousness arises. When defeating an evil character, a hero symbolically overcomes the problem of the human unconsciousness. The attainment of consciousness is the origins of a great achievement and archetype of a hero who wins a battle represents victory in overcoming darkness or trouble (Fiest 110).

f. Self

Jung believes that everyone has a tendency, to move towards inherited change, perfection and completeness. He called this innate disposition as self. A most comprehensive archetype compared to other archetypes. The self is attractive in other types of archetypes and unites them all in a self-realization (31).

C. RESEARCH METHOD

This study is going to use qualitative method. According to William, qualitative research does not involve counting and dealing with numbers but is based more on information expressed in words, descriptions, accounts, opinions, feelings, etc (129). The researcher also uses the approach of content analysis. Leedy and Ordmord state, a content analysis is a detailed and systematic examination of the contents of a particular body of material for the purpose of identifying patterns, themes, or biases. Content analysis are typically performed on forms of human communication such books, newspapers, journals, documents, films, art, music etc (257).

1. Data and Data Source

The data source of this analysis is the novel by David Ebershoff *The* Danish Girl (2000) which tells a story of Einar Wegener a married man who decided to become a transgender and transforms into another person named Lili Elbe. The data presented in the novel in the form of words, description, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and dialogues throughout the novel that are related to the archetypes personalities of the main character in the novel which is Einar Wegener.

2. Data Collection

In order to collect the data, the researcher does some steps. Close reading to the novel is the first step to collect the data of this analysis. Second step is choosing the required data based on the personality theory of archetypes by Jung. Last step is relooking through the data again to find out whether there are already in the correct classification of the archetypes personalities of Einar Wegener.

3. Data Analysis

For content analysis purpose in this study, the researcher will classify the data using inductive content analysis approach. Inductive is an approach that moves from the specific to the general, so that particular instances are observed and then combined into larger whole or general statement (Chinn & Kramar). After reading and selecting the data in the form of words, phrases, and sentences which have the criteria of archetypes theory, organizing the qualitative data is the next process in inductive content analysis. This process

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includes some steps which are: open coding, creating categories, and abstraction.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. FINDINGS

a. The Archetypes Found on Einar Character

According to Jung, Persona is the outward appearance of a person who has the goal of being accepted in a society. Theoretically, Persona is like a mask worn by someone, it allows a person to have a certain personality that suits society, which may not be his real personality. In this case of Einar Wegener, the Persona in him can be seen through the narratives that tell he is a famous painter and a married man, but he sometimes likes to dress as a girl.

(DATA: PS01)

There he was, Einar in the young girl's dress, flirting with a younger man. It was an awful sight. Lili shuddered again. The main in front of the toilethouse entered, and then there was a loud crash, a trash bin knocked over. "I'm afraid I can't see you anymore," (Ebershoff 61).

Through this data, Einar was dressed as a girl and was flirting with a younger man, but suddenly, Einar realized something and left. The narrator described it as an awful sight because it was something contrary to his Persona. Which means, what Einar did is considered a bad deed that could spoil his pubic face. Therefore, it is Persona categorized avoiding a shame when he immediately realized and got embarrassed of his action. However, if the community recognizes him, it will cause trouble to his social life. It can be concluded as Persona when Einar got embarrassed for his action, which later on he tried to keep his reputation from bad influence by run away from the situation. In addition, a person tends to feel guilty or extremely embarrassed when doing things that are contrary to the Persona they admit (Stein 146). Thus, Einar felt extremely embarrassed when realizing what he is doing was inappropriate things to see since Persona means to avoid shameful situation, which is dressed as a girl and flirting with a man.

2. Shadow

Shadow is the opposite from Persona because shadow is the archetype of darkness and repression. It consists of constructive and other creative creations that we are afraid of facing. In other word, shadow usually has qualities that are inappropriate or not in accordance with morality and contains sides that are contradicting to the moral agreement and traits of the society. In Einar Wegener character, Shadow can be seen from the figure of Lili who is hidden inside him. The first shadow has shown on Einar, when he was approached by a man who seemed interested in Einar:

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(DATA: SW01)

"It's me." It was a man's voice. Einar said nothing, stayed still in the armchair. This was what he wanted more than anything in the world, but he couldn't bring himself to say it (Ebershoff 126).

This data was narrated by the narrator, in this data Einar was approached by a man but Einar could not respond to it. The narrator described that Einar could not say anything to that man even though this is what he wanted. This means, Einar was unable to give a proper respond to the man because it is something unexpected. Therefore, it is Shadow categorized inability to respond, since Shadow is an untrained personality. Einar could not act or say the way he wanted because it is something beyond his capability as usual. It does not really often a man interested in him and approached him right away.

Based on that situation it can be concluded as Shadow because even though Einar really want it too but he could not say it due to his inability to respond something unexpected. Shadow is an underdeveloped and uncontrollable personality (126). When someone is in a situation that requires a quick response, a trained Shadow will react properly. Einar's Shadow has not trained well enough to give a proper respond as he wanted in that unexpected situation, that is why he just froze and stayed still in the armchair.

3. Anima

Anima is the feminine side of men, and the equivalent figure from anima is the Animus which is the masculine side of women. Anima projections usually appear in the form of a feelings or moods. In this case, if a man wants to conquer his anima, he must have high conscious awareness and strong courage. In Einar Wegener case, Anima projection appears many times as Lili's character. The first Anima shown on Einar when Greta ask him to wear Anna's shoes, which at first he refuse to wear them even though he thought it might as well fit in him.

(DATA: AN01)

"But I can't wear Anna's shoes," Einar said. Looking at them, Einar imagined that the shoes might in fact fit his feet, which were small and arched and padded softly on the heel (Ebershoff 04).

This data was narrated by the narrator, in this data Einar was imagined himself wearing the shoes. The narrator described Einar wanted to wear the shoes even though he said he could not, yet he also could not stop wondering how it would feel on his feet. This means, Einar aware of his identity as a man that is why he should not wear things that meant to women. Therefore,



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it is categorized as Anima feeling interested because of his interest in woman stuff. As a result, he could not wear them because it is a woman shoes, yet he got so interested on them and he can only imagine himself wearing them.

Based on that, it proves the Anima archetype on Einar has shown in a form of feeling interested on woman stuff. His interest on the shoes could mean he has attracted to that kind of stuff since so long, however he never has the confidence to say so. Einar likes the shoes but he could not make himself to wear them because he knows it will be silly for a man to wear heels that it meant to women.

4. Hero

Hero archetype is the courage and sacrifice in defending a truth it is basically the moral value in a person. A person's hero is shown by his action and decision at crucial situation. Thus, hero is the ideal type personality because it also has to fight his own weakness. In Einar Wegener case, the Hero archetypes shown on his decisions making and his struggle in finding out what really happen to himself. As for the first Hero has shown on Einar when he decided to do a research about what happened to his body:

(DATA: HO01)

Buried in the cavity of his body were Lili's organs, the bloody packets and folds of flesh that made her who she was. At first it was hard to believe, but then the notion of it-that this wasn't a mental problem, but physical one--made more and more sense to him (Ebershoff 139).

This data was also narrated by the narrator, in this data Einar was figuring out what happened to his body. The narrator described that Einar was in a library to read books and journal about sexes, when he comes to understanding that he was not mentally ill instead it is physically. Which means, all along Einar had been suffering some physical problem but he is too afraid to finding out because he feared if it is a mental problem. Therefore, it is Hero categorized courage because at last Einar finally gather his bravery to finds out what is wrong with him. By that it can be concluded the Hero archetype is his courage to find out the truth. In addition, Einar has made a decision to learn about sexes in order to finds out what is wrong with him. After all this time he had been afraid to face the truth and always try to avoid that he was ill.

5. Self

The Self is symbolized as a person's idea of perfection, wholeness, and completeness. Self consists of personal and collective unconscious and it brings together the conflicting elements the power of men and women, good and evil, dark and light (Jung 31). It can be said that Self is the purpose of life. In addition, Self is the guidance to self-actualization which is the final achievement of a whole individual being. Self in Einar Wegener can be seen through the final result of him when he in the end has become Lili Elbe.



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(DATA: SF01)

To prove to the world—no, not to the world but to herself—that indeed she was a woman, and that all her previous life, the little man known as Einar, was simply nature's gravest mishap, corrected once and for all. (Ebershoff, 243)

This data was narrated by the narrator, in this data Lili was deciding to do the last surgery. The narrator described that Lili wanted to prove to the world that she is actually a woman. Which means Lili wants to show the world that nature has made a mistake on her body when she should be a woman instead of a man but now it is going to be fixed once for all. Therefore, it is categorized as Self archetype because she could feel the completeness by doing the surgery. At last Lili was convinced that her transformation is the best decision she ever made. It can be concluded it is Self because the Self archetype has shown in here in a form of feeling completeness. That is why when she finally realized that it was all just nature's error on her body then she could feel the completeness in her life. She was right all this time that she is indeed a woman inside. Thus, after all this time she was just played her role in society as Einar Wegener.

b. Archetypes Described Einar Wegener

To reveal Einar's character through his archetypes the researcher has found that Einar is an over thinking person. Therefore, first archetype shown on Einar is Persona it can be seen through the speech inside his mind from the novel whenever he felt he was doing something unusual he would over think about his image in the environment. The second archetype that describes Einar's character is the Shadow the researcher has found that Einar is a selfish person. It can be seen through the speech in his mind, whenever he did a bad thing against the moral value in society, he did not want to admit that it is a wrong thing and he should not do it.

Next archetype that describes Einar's character is the Anima the researcher has found that Einar is a feminine person. It can be seen through his external appearance. From the way he always described in the novel as physically feminine just like a girl in her puberty. Since he also like woman's clothes and he like to dress up as a girl. The following archetype that describes Einar's character is the archetype of Hero the researcher has found that Einar is a brave person. It can be seen through his action. He decided to do the surgery and learn the truth about himself in order to fight his own weakness.

The last archetype that describes Einar's character is the archetype of Self the researcher has found Einar is a confident person. It can be seen through his speech in mind, when he finally realizes his true self. He was convincing himself that he is a she, and she is Lili Elbe. She finally has the self-realization because she felt complete. It proved that she finally has the



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confidence to call herself as a woman. Self-completeness has proved in the end of the novel by the way she accepted herself as she is.

DISCUSSION

The archetypes that have been found and analyzed in the novel are Persona, Shadow, Anima, Hero, and Self. Persona; In the novel, there are four Persona of Einar character. The third Persona showed that Einar tried to maintain his image in front of the public. He did it in order to fulfill the expectations of the social community. In fact, Einar basically has his own hidden desire to become a woman, it was Lili. These desires were still very taboo at that time; therefore, he could not reveal it. Shadow; Next is the Shadow archetype, there are five Shadow found in Einar's character. In accordance with the indicator of Shadow, that has different goals from society and defies prevailing morals, Einar points to the fact that he has different sexual preference. This sexual preference is caused by the presence of Lili's figure. Meanwhile, Lili's character in Einar is a form of a physical disability that makes Einar has two genitals. Anima; Anima is the feminine side of men. Einar has seven Anima archetypes in him. All the nine Anima have the same indicator, which is Einar's interest in woman's stuff and also, physically, Einar has a body that looks like a girl in puberty. The trait that Einar has above, proved that he is more feminine than other men in general. Therefore, he shows his archetype Anima because his femininity is more dominant than his masculine side. Hero; Hero includes the courage in making decisions and the courage in overcome inner conflicts. In Einar character, he experienced four archetypes of Hero. The four archetypes of Hero are shown through Einar's act in his courage to make decisions and face the reality in his life. The courage that Einar did made him able to decide substantial things for himself and be able to make himself proud to have chosen the decision. **Self**; the last archetype Einar went through is Self. Indicator of Self includes self-actualization when a person is able to realize all the archetypes in him. Einar has two Self archetypes in him, where he has realized that he is completely female, and in the end, he is able to accept himself as a woman. Even though it ended in death, Einar's self-acceptance allowed him to end without the regret that would have occurred if he ignored his true self.

In addition, characterizations of Einar were indirectly described through his actions, speech and external appearance. All the archetypes that Einar went through can be used as fundamental to summarize the characterization of Einar Wegener. The first is Persona. Through the speech inside his mind, it can be seen that Einar is someone who is over thinking, because he cannot stop thinking about what other people think of him. He wanted to maintain the image that fulfills the society's expectations. The second is Shadow. Through the archetype of Shadow, Einar has shown to have a selfish character. Therefore, based on his speech in mind, his selfish



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trait makes it difficult for him to admit his mistakes and tends to hide his weaknesses.

The next archetype that shows Einar's characterization is the Anima. Indirectly, through his external appearances, Einar's Anima proves that he is a feminine person. It can be seen from the characteristics and woman's nature is more dominant in him than a man's characteristic. The next archetype is Hero. In this story, Einar's Hero has shown forth times. Indirectly Einar's Hero appeared through his actions in decision making. From the four Hero, it can be concluded that Einar's courage was able to make him go through all his doubts and fears until he finally found his true self.

The last archetype that describe Einar's characterization is Self. In this novel, Einar's Self occurred only two times. The Self archetype encountered at the end of the story when he finally realized that he was completely female. Through his action to do the last surgery reflects his self-confidence, after previously he went through his entire struggle to find his identity.

E. CONCLUSION

Jung's personality Archetypes are including six dominant types but the researcher only found five types in Einar's character. Through Einar's five Archetypes, it can be concluded that Einar has difficulty discerning which personality he will present to the public which is whether being Einar or Lili. These things can be seen through his behavior, thoughts, external appearance, speech, and the environment. However, through these things, Einar was finally able to overcome all obstacles in his life until he found his true identity at the end. Those Archetypes appear and represented by Einar Wegener through his actions, thought, speech and external appearance.

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