
THE ELEMENTS OF PERSONALITY IN THE MAIN CHARACTER OF *SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET* BY TIM BURTON

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ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the elements of personality in the main character of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon of Barber of Fleet Street* by Tim Burton. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative methods because the results of this research are words which are then described. In this research, the researcher found the elements of personality in the main character of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon of Barber of Fleet Street* by Tim Burton such as Todd id as the desire wants to revenge Turpin and Beadle because of what they did to Todd's family, the desire wants to kill Pirelli because he knew his the real identity, and the desire wants to kill Mrs. Lovett because she lied him. The desires as Todd's id realized and supported by the ego. The way how ego realized all of id in *Sweeney Todd*, the ego does his role with an action. Thus the superego does not appear much as the id. His role only related with a good value such as when Todd wants to reveal the fake barber about his crime.

Keywords: *Sweeney Todd, id, ego, superego.*

Introduction

Personality is the study about how to be yourself because every individual have their experience and own uniqueness, personality has shape there from the time people born, and it develops by the situation and condition. It can affects the personality of one of them is a family environment that directly establish a good or bad one's personality. Krech says that (1974: 652) personality is formed naturally. According to the place where he lived, from the beginning of the baby born, traditions shaping behavior experience. Explanation of social contribution and role of culture shown very important role in the formation of a personality.

Personality theory has been influenced more by Sigmund Freud. According to Freud as quoted by Minderop (2010:14). Freud divides three elements of personality, those are: Id, Ego, And Superego. The way id works relates to the principle of pleasure, which is always seeking pleasure and always avoiding inconvenience. And the ego ha a function to realize the id into reality. Hall and Lindzey (1993:66) say the ego is called the executive personality, because the ego controls the doors in the direction of action, choosing the aspects of the environment where it will respond. And the last is superego, the superego's main concern is deciding whether something is right or wrong so that he can act in accordance with the norms that apply in society. Although these elements have each function, Component. Principle work and .If dynamic, but these have relationship each of the

Id, Ego, and Superego. The unity and human being behavior are the results of these aspect.

In this research, the researcher uses a qualitative method that produced descriptive data in the form of elements of words or sentences related to research problems. (Semi M. A., 2012) said that qualitative methods are researches that do not consider of numbers, but consider of interactions between concepts that are being studied empirically. Therefore, a research in literature that requires a researcher to read, interpret, and listen to qualitative methods is very appropriate because this method is about interaction.

The elements of personality was previously written by several researchers. The first, *Id, Ego, and Superego of The Main Characters' Dominant personality in J.G. Ballard's High Rise, a Psychoanalytic Reading* by Endah Wahyuni (2016), *Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Gajah Mada*. This researcher analyzes the novel *High Rise* by James Graham Ballard which describes personality of main characters. The problems of the researcher are the characters' behavior in *High Rise* can be explained in terms of psychoanalytic concept of id, ego, and superego and the dominant personality of three main characters (Richard Wilder, Robert Laing, and Anthony Royal) in the Novel. The analysis is to explain Richard Wilder, Robert Laing, and Anthony Royal's behavior in terms of psychoanalytic theory of id, ego, and superego and to discover each of the main character's dominant personality in the novel.

The second, *Analisis Tokoh Utama dengan Teori Psikoanalisa Sigmund Freud pada Cerpen Hana (鼻) Karya Akutagawa Ryunosuke* by Siti Rokhana (2009), *Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Asing, Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni, Universitas Negeri Semarang*. This researcher analyzes the short story *Hana (鼻)* by Akutagawa Ryunosuke which describes personality of the main character. The problem of the researcher are the personality of the main character Hana and the factors that influence the appearance of psychological aspect the main character in *Hana (鼻)* short story. The analysis is to find the personality (id, ego, and superego) of the main character Hana and the factors that influence the appearance of psychological aspect the main character in *Hana (鼻)* short story.

This research discusses the elements of personality in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* by Tim Burton. The researcher has to focus on the following question of how are the elements of personality shown in the main character of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street's* movie?

Discussion

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street's movie told about the main character, Sweeney Todd as a professional barber who has a motive to get revenge on a Judge Turpin who kidnapped his wife Lucy Barker and his daughter Johanna. The desire for revenge has been fulfilled, however Todd becomes an evil that cannot control his self to killing people including his beloved wife.

Id is the oldest part of the structure of human personality that since people born. Id is chaotic, it means that the mechanism of action of this id with no rules, do not recognize morality and cannot distinguish between the good and the bad. Here are the analyses of id in *Sweeney Todd*:



Picture 01: *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, Minute 16:01

“MRS. LOVETT

Well, I can't say the years have been particularly kind to you, Mr. Barker, but you still--

TODD

No, not Barker. That man is dead. It's Todd now. Sweeney Todd ... And he will have his revenge.

He continues with a chilling and quiet resolve as he stares with unblinking eyes into the fire:

TODD

Judge Turpin and the Beadle will pay for what they did.” (Libretto 2004: 16)

The picture and the script's quotation above describe Mrs. Lovett tried to calming down Todd because of what happened to him in the past, but Todd refuted her with full of confident that he is change. He was a new person that had a new hope, a new life, a new purpose, and a new plan to revenge what the Judge Turpin and the Beadle did to his family.

The id shown in what Todd ambition to revenge the Judge Turpin and the Beadle did to him, to snatch all of the happiness in his life, his wife and his daughter. The id is very strong to control his self. It can be seen on his expression full of anger when he speaks to make sure to Mrs. Lovett that he will revenge to them. And also the id can be seen on the quotation above “... And he will have his revenge” and “Judge Turpin and the Beadle will pay what they did”, the id strong enough to control Todd to full his pleasure to revenge his enemy. Id is always seeking pleasure and avoiding inconvenience. It can be connected to the id in Todd. His revenge is a pleasure for him. His pleasure to revenge the Judge Turpin and Beadle. The revenge will satisfy his desire and avoiding inconvenience, because the presence of the Judge Turpin and the Beadle that still alive in Todd's eyes is an inconvenience.



Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Minute 47:54
“Todd is standing, arms folded. Waiting. Pirelli enters.

PIRELLI

Mr. Todd.

TODD

Signor Pirelli.

PIRELLI

(reverting to his natural
Irish)

Call me Danny. Daniel Higgins' the
name when it's not professional ...
I'd like me five quid back, if'n ya
don't mind.

TODD

Why?

PIRELLI

Because you entered into our little
wager on false pretenses, me friend
... And so you might remember to be
more forthright in the future, you'll
be handing over half your profits to
me, share and share alike...

Todd shakes his head, amused, and begins to turn away when
Pirelli says:

PIRELLI

... Mr. Benjamin Barker.

Todd freezes.” (Libretto 2004: 42-43)

The picture and the script's quotation above describe that Pirelli visited Todd's place to asking his 5 pounds back. Todd got 5 ponds from defeated Pirelli in his challenge before. However, Pirelli not only asking his 5 pounds back, he also extorted Todd with handing over half of his profit to Pirelli because Pirelli knew who Todd is exactly. Todd began to worry, he felt threatened and tried to thinking what he need to do because Pirelli recognized him as Benjamin Barker.

The id shown when Todd freezes, he shakes his head, amused, and feels threatened because Pirelli recognize his real identity. The id has a power to push Todd to think how to shut up the Pirelli and to silence him because Todd never wanted everyone to know his real identity as Benjamin Barker, especially Judge

Turpin and Beadle. Todd's id is to seek for power, in the picture Todd tries to think how to silence Pirelli. For furthermore the id of Todd will apply his thought to kill Pirelli in the ego that will be analyzed on the ego part.



Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Minute 01:48:02

MRS. LOVETT

Your Lucy! A crazy hag picking bones
and rotten spuds out of alley ashcans!
Would you have wanted to know she
ended up like that?

TODD

(looking up)
You lied to me...

MRS. LOVETT

(desperately)
No, no, not lied at all.
No, I never lied.

TODD

(to Beggar Woman)
Lucy..." (Libretto 2004: 116-117)

The picture and the script's quotation above describe that when Mrs. Lovett opened the oven the light of fire light up one of the dead body on the floor, face clearly visible and the face recognized by Todd. She is his lovely wife, Lucy. Mrs. Lovett knew and lied for a long time to him because she really loves Todd. Todd felt so sad and angry because he had killed his wife and he was lied to by Mrs. Lovett. Mrs. Lovett denied Todd that she was lied to him. Not all of information that she gave to him is a lie, but Todd still hated Mrs. Lovett for lying to him.

In this case, the id shown when Todd feels disappointed because Mrs. Lovett lied to him and caused him killed his wife, Lucy. Todd's id is a desire to kill Mrs. Lovett because what she did to him about his love. Todd's id is devoted to gratification of desire for sex. It means that Todd has a desire hating and wants to kill Mrs. Lovett because she is the cause that Todd killed his wife. It can be seen on the words "You knew she lived. From the moment that I came into your shop you knew my Lucy lived!" the picture also describes how Todd very sad and blames Mrs. Lovett for the death of his lovely wife.

The next element of personality is Ego. Ego is a part of the personality that must comply with the id in the search for reality id needed as absorbers of tensions. With this opinion people can defuse tension to a certain limit because the ego works

based on the principle of reality. Ego helps people to consider whether he can satisfy them without causing trouble or suffering for him, the ego is between the unconscious and the subconscious. Task ego provide for the primary mental functions, for example: reasoning, problem solving and decision making. For this reason, the ego is a major leader in the personality like a corporate leader who is able to make rational decisions for the betterment of the company. Here are the analyses of ego in Sweeney Todd, as the follows:



Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Minute 21:08

“JUDGE

How seldom it is one meets a fellow
spirit!

TODD

With fellow tastes -- in women, at
least.

JUDGE

What? What's that?

TODD

The years no doubt have changed me,
sir.

TODD (cont'd)

But then, I suppose the face of a
barber -- the face of a prisoner in
the dock -- is not particularly
memorable.

JUDGE

(a horrified realization)

Benjamin Barker!

TODD

BENJAMIN BARKER!

The factory whistle screams a steady, terrible blast as—

Todd brutally SLASHES the Judge's throat—

Severing his jugular—

The spray of blood drenches Todd—

He pulls the lever and sends the body tumbling out of sight
down the chute. (Libretto 2004: 113-114)

The picture and the script's quotation above describe that after Judge Turpin knew that Johanna placed in Todd's place, Todd lied to him that Johanna will

apologize and obey him, Todd offered him to shave because he will look so good when meet with Johanna. While Todd was coddling the judge, Todd told the judge who he really is. Judge Turpin not expected that the barber who coddling him is the man that he slandered, the man is Benjamin Barker. By looking at Turpin's expression, Todd brutally slashed his throat until the judge die. He felt satisfied because his purpose had been fulfilled.

This event is the main desire that Todd wanted all of this time. His desire to revenge, to kill Judge Turpin fulfilled. His ego does his role to kill him. The ego shows when Todd slashes Turpin's throat brutally with his razor. Hall and Lindzey (1993:66) say the ego is called the executive personality, because the ego controls the doors in the direction of action, choosing the aspects of the environment where it will respond. Based on Hall and Lindzey, the ego is an action that applying what the id desired. It can be seen on the words that narrator explains "Todd brutally SLASHES the Judge's throat. Severing his jugular. The spray of blood drenches Todd" and also the picture describe how Todd uses his razor to slashes Turpin's throat by enjoying and being satisfied it. That is the way how Todd's ego shown in this scene.



Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Minute 33:34

“TODD

I do.

(Todd moves forward
boldly.)

I am Mr. Sweeney Todd of Fleet Street.
I have opened a bottle of Pirelli's
elixir, and I say to you that it is
nothing but an arrant fraud, concocted
from piss and ink.” (Libretto 2004: 29)

The picture and the script's quotation above describe that Todd said that the elixir that introduced by the kid is concocted from piss and ink. Pirelli as a master of the kid and the owner of the elixir did not accept that his elixir concocted from piss and ink. However Todd said to him and explains to people on there while introduced his self that he opened the bottle of elixir and the smell like a piss mixed with an ink. Perhaps that was nothing for Pirelli, but Todd said that is a crime by tricking people.

The superego of Todd showed when he tried to reveal Pirelli's lie. He tells everyone that Pirelli is tricked them. He also explains that the elixir is concocted from piss and ink. Hall and Lindzey (1993:66) say that the superego's main concern

is deciding whether something is right or wrong so that he can act in accordance with the norms that apply in society. Based on Hall and Lindzey, the superego of Todd deciding that what Pirelli did is a wrong in a norm of society, so he reveals it to people as a good moral to against a crime. It can be seen on the words “I say to you that it is nothing but an arrant fraud” that what Todd said as the control of superego’s role. It also can be seen on the picture, bravely Todd reveal the crime of Pirelli around people. Todd thinks what he does is a good morality for the people in the future.

Conclusions

Based on the elements of personality in Sweeney Todd, the id more showed in and dominated superego. His desire to revenge Judge Turpin and Beadle becomes his main id. As time goes by, the other desires in his personality one by one began to appear. Such as the desire wants to defeat the fake barber, the desire wants to kill Beadle immediately because the Beadle did not keep his words, the desire wants to kill Pirelli because he knew his the real identity, the desire wants to remove Toby from his barber shop, the desire wants to kill Tobi because he is a threaten, his desire wants to kill Turpin because he lost his chance to kill him, the desire wants to kill everyone who came to his barber shop, and the desire wants to kill Mrs. Lovett because she lied him. All of the desires basically filled with the desire to kill over wanting family. The desires as Todd’s id realized and supported by the ego. The way how ego realized all of id in Sweeney Todd, the ego does his role with an action. Thus the superego, the superego of Todd does not appear much as the id. Because the condition of Todd full of revenge.

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