
**AN ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER'S
PSYCHOLOGICAL CONFLICT IN THE NOVEL "9 SUMMERS 10
AUTUMNS: FROM THE CITY OF APPLES TO THE BIG APPLE"
BY IWAN SETYAWAN**

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Abstract. The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze conflict comprehensively in a novel. Object of this research is the novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple" by Iwan Setiawan tells the story of a boy from little village who pursues his dreams in United State of America. This study discusses the psychological conflict experienced by main character, especially the conflict that happens when he has been solving the problem to reach every target what he wants. The study uses a qualitative method to determine how to analyze and collect research data, which is used to determine psychological experience. The result of this study found that as a condition when someone has been born is not a reason to create a big dream, sometimes this condition also gives trouble in relationship with friend of the same age and always haunted by feelings of guilt so punishing himself and experience the inner conflict. The data collection which we obtained from the observation, documentation, and combined.

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As well as the technique of analysing data which used is qualitative data analyzing, it is Reading or studying the data, Learn the keyword and write model was found. The wisdom of this study was a parents should support every dream from their children and did not give some tight limitation that made kids felt hard to achieve their dreams.

Keywords: Psychological Conflict Analysis, Main Characters, Novel, Literature.

Abstrak. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi dan menganalisis konflik secara komprehensif dalam sebuah novel. Objek penelitian ini adalah novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple" karya Iwan Setiawan yang menceritakan tentang seorang anak laki-laki dari desa kecil yang mengejar mimpinya di Amerika Serikat. Penelitian ini membahas tentang konflik psikologis yang dialami oleh tokoh utama, khususnya konflik yang terjadi ketika ia harus memecahkan masalah untuk mencapai setiap target yang diinginkannya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk mengetahui cara menganalisis dan mengumpulkan data penelitian, yang digunakan untuk mengetahui pengalaman psikologis. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan bahwa sebagai suatu kondisi ketika seseorang telah dilahirkan bukan alasan untuk menciptakan mimpi besar, terkadang kondisi ini juga memberikan masalah dalam hubungan dengan teman sebaya dan selalu dihantui oleh perasaan bersalah sehingga menghukum dirinya sendiri dan mengalami konflik batin. Pengumpulan data yang kami peroleh dari observasi, dokumentasi, dan gabungan. Serta teknik analisis data yang digunakan adalah analisis data kualitatif, yaitu Membaca atau mempelajari data, Mempelajari kata kunci dan menulis model yang ditemukan. Hikmah dari penelitian ini adalah hendaknya orang tua mendukung segala cita-cita anak dan tidak memberikan batasan-batasan yang terlalu ketat sehingga membuat anak merasa kesulitan dalam meraih cita-citanya.

Kata Kunci: Analisis Konflik Psikologis, Tokoh Utama, Novel, Sastra.

INTRODUCTION

Culture is the legacy from ancestors that must be respected and must be kept. Culture is the pieces of story that have created a civilization of mankind and it is not excessive statement that culture is a tool to complete a life and is not the opposite one, to

become a tool to show differences and war. According to Roger M. Keesing (1974), a culture is the heritage of learned symbolic behavior that makes humans human. The culture concept comes down to behavior patterns associated with particular groups of people that is to "customs" or to a people's "way of life". Countries in the world have a lot of culture and tribe that must realize to keep culture with awareness into every man is obligation.

In a novel, if the psychological conflicts are not observed, messages that are built by the author in a novel cannot be correctly accepted by readers. This is the main issue in psychological conflict observation. In the literature world, combining two aspects with have no related each other fittingly, like psyche and novel, is a bridge to make love with literature. The aim is full and total comprehension of readers in literature, especially novel, not only just ordinary effect but the influences or messages can flow fluently.

One of the great novels that is challenging to be observed is "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From the City of Apples to the Big Apple" by Iwan Setyawan. It is an Indonesian novel that is translated into English. This novel shows strong psychological conflicts that happen into Iwan as a main character, even the flow of story or main problem is raised by interesting conflicts that fights in his mind. This element pushes story into readers psyche too and it likes inviting readers must do what characters do in the novel. Iwan Setyawan as the author convinces people to analyze this novel deeply with the award that has been reached as the best book in Jakarta Book Award 2011 and then this novel is one of Khatulistiwa Literary Award. It is nomination for the best literary work in Indonesia.

Novel by Iwan Setyawan has big devotee because the novel tells interesting and unpredictable plot in every scenes. This has been approved by PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama as the publisher which has published this novel eight times. The first publishing of "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From the City of Apples to the Big Apple" has already done in 2011, February.

Based on explanation above, observing psychological conflict elements in the novel that shows a lot of psyche side is needed. Describing and explaining with good technique will get main point or personal message from novel that has been read. Finally, the observation raises conflict in psychological side and entitled "An Analysis of The

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Main Character's Psychological Conflict in The Novel 9 Summers 10 Autumns: From the City of Apples to the Big Apple by Iwan Setyawan.”.

THEORETICAL STUDY

Literature is one of the legacies of culture that links one period to another one. Literature existence in modern era is not realized by every person and they consider that literature is only known by student of literature in college, man of letters or artist. This paradigm must be corrected because that is not totally true. Welleck and Warren (1949) state that to make a clear between literature and literary study by making a distinction between literature and literary study. The two are distinct activities: one is creative, an art; the other, if not precisely a science, is a species of knowledge or of learning. Literature is an art or a full creation form, emotion, and expression which designate imaginative ideas through language as media. This theory shows that people who have creativity, emotion and expression can create literature well no matter who is he and at least three of them must be grinded down every time. This theory also concludes a simple meaning that literary study is an interesting subject that learns about literature and the other one, products of literature are poem, sonnet, play, novel and many more.

Novel is a literature product that has many attracting elements to make readers fall in love to it. Story, characterization, conflict are several aspects that people cannot deny and follow the story until the end. Terry Eagleton (2005) says that a novel is a piece of prose fiction with reasonable length. Every part element of novel is not only written meaningless but it brings specific purpose to present readers. Francis Marion Crawford (1893) informs that the purpose-novel is a miracle-play- and if it be true that any really good novel can be dramatized, nothing short of a miracle could put a purpose-novel on the boards.

A great novel presents the story like a life reflection and sometime it can transform into a “play” in its readers imagination because it presents the entertaining story like real humankind story. Francis Marion Crawford also argues that a novel is, after all, a play, and perhaps it is nothing but a substitute for the real play with live characters, scene-shifting and footlights.

Elements of novel are things that build a novel well and they are found inside the story and they also support the story. These elements are character, plot, setting and moral message. Every element is divided into several parts or sub-elements and that is a requirement that must be concerned by an author of novel to make a good literary work.

One of the important sub-elements from the novel is conflict. Conflict is a part of plot, the main element of novel. Conflict is divided into two big parts, external and internal conflict. External conflict supports internal conflict through dealing with the problems of the world, such as man versus man, man versus nature, man versus society, and man versus fate. Another one, internal conflict, is the problem that occurs into character. Internal conflict means fighting character's emotion toward himself and it is described as psychological conflict and sociological conflict.

Psychological conflict is one of the interesting aspects for learning. Psychology is knowledge about soul or psyche that describes a human feeling. It is very hard to be touched, be listened or be seen. The relation between novel and psyche is that both of them have cases to describe or to learn of base character the nature of human such as curiosity, thoughts, emotion, feelings and mental problems.

METHOD

Researching psychological conflict in novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From the City of Apples to the Big Apple" by Iwan Setiawan uses qualitative data. Burhan asserts that qualitative study focuses on describing and analyzing a phenomenon, social activity, perception, belief, individual and thought. This method is very perfect to describe clearly main problem of psychological conflict.

1. Procedures

Collecting data is important part of completing qualitative method because analyzing problem will be easier if has more source of data. Arikunto (2000) verifies that documentation is the act of looking for data which concern with matters such as note, book, newspaper, magazine, transcript, and agenda. The following steps of collecting data are; Reading the novel continuously, Understanding content of novel, Finding out data that related to research problems, Concluding with notes everything that has influenced thing with problem, and Organizing data.

2. Data Analysis

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Technique of analyzing data for Bogdan and Biklen (1982) is the effort for data, organizing, separating them to be unity data that can be observed and then digging and finding pattern to explore something important and finally can be told to people as a conclusion. Collecting data is useless if never analyzed deeply because observation will never get final conclusion as a purpose. Some techniques to make searching more credible are: Interpretation, Content analyzing, building hypothesis and work with it.

Interpretation means understanding content for whole categories with aim to bring observation to the right path of final result of analysis. Bogdan and Taylor (1975) gives some methods to do this act, those are: Read in detail every note that has been gotten when collects data and give title based on topic of discussion; then Read the reference based on discussion and relate them.

These methods make every step of observation more focus, effective and efficient then analyzing process derives on specific discussion not to general and too broad concept.

The second way to make data more credible is content analyzing and it is a technique with method finding structure and pattern and then summarizing the conclusion based on structure and pattern that has been found. Seems easy but finding detail of pattern is difficult and must be trained day by day. The simple way to do this technique is organizing categories and then concludes them.

The last chapter to analyze data is building hypothesis and then work on it. Taylor defines that analyzing data is a process that elaborates effort in detail to find a theme and scheduling hypothesis (idea) from data as a form to help that hypothesis. Summarizing ideas after interpretation and content analyzing must be easier but this technique still accordance the data that has been collected. The more data has been collected, the less specification theme will see.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

1. Synopsis

Iwan is lonely man who lives in New York City, United State of America, city that has never sleep activities. One day he has been robbed by two people

when he has used underground train and that experience has introduced him to a boy with white-red shirt likes his uniform of SD in Batu, Iwan's little town in Indonesia. From little boy who has been met in that experience, Iwan starts open the memories about past, about memory of family love that saves everything and guides him to grow up.

Iwan is a boy who grows with simple family in a little village of the foot of Panderman Mountain, together they live in the 6x7 meters of house. His father is minibus driver who never knows the date of his born and he hopes Iwan, the one of the man son in his family, grows as a tough guy and can help family to struggle with life but extremely Iwan is different man who never matches with father expectation. He is a smart guy, especially in mathematics, who never wants to be minibus driver like his father and dreaming to build his own room larger, simple dream. Live with seven members of family into little house with limited needs makes Iwan never has own room. The best room for all family is guest room, together they laugh, cry and dream in this room.

His mother is amazing woman who never passes the school. She teaches five children in the family with love and never gives up education. She likes an angel who guide and protect all family members to the right path of life. Anger's father is the thing that cannot be imagine for children, and mother is a woman who calm it and stabilizes condition of little house.

Education is a big thing that spreads the wing of dream and conquers the way out from suffering life. With hard work and struggle, the boy of Apple City, Malang, gets work into "The Big Apple", New York. Ten years after his adventure in cosmopolitan city, he raises success and fills father expectation to help family life with his way to be a director of the one of biggest company in the world.

2. Plot and Setting

The place as the background of this novel is divided by three, such as New York City, House of Iwan in Batu City, and Bogor City. New York City as a place that Iwan reaches the dream and starts the whole story is final destination of story. The second place that describes setting is house of Iwan. This place is very clear in visualizing. This house describes a place to form character building for every

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members of family. House of Iwan interprets very detail include another spot around the house. The final place as setting section is Bogor City. This place, hometown of Iwan in Indonesia, confirms about condition of city generally when Iwan in college.

This novel describes time in several way includes morning, afternoon and also evening. Following quotation will explain clearly one by one.

Iwan writes some conditions to make novel more live, those are happy, sad and gripping. However, another element besides setting must be known and the important element to build a story is plot. Mario Klarer asserts that plot is the logical interaction of the various thematic elements of a text which lead to a change of the original situation as presented at the outset of the narrative. Novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple" has combined plot, it means sometimes plot tells the past, memory of Iwan and in other hand the story tells present day. Iwan leads in New York life with live on easy street and he memorizes his childhood through a white-red-tshirt boy who has been seen when he has been robbed in the first night of United State of America independence party.

3. Characterization

Main character of novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple" is Iwan and the characteristic of him is very wonderful. Describing every attitude in word is detail so that makes observation easier to know this character. The first characterization of Iwan is wary man. Not only wary, Iwan also has loner or liking to be alone character from he has been young. He loves home as a playground accompanies his sisters and mother in the kitchen.

That reason makes Iwan grows to be a man who likes his world, especially book. He is smart and stand alone may be because he never need another help from friends because he can solve his trouble alone. He is a man who care about healthy and never forget about healing or refreshing his mind to keep his body still on the top or pick performance when doing activity. The final character that

he has is family lover. He never forget about kind, warm and joy of family include as mother, father, or his sisters.

Discussion

a. Approach-approach conflict

This conflict experiences to character if someone faces two positive motives (fun or benefit) and then someone must select one of them. These motives are so strong and influence their mind to make a decision. Final decision still makes the chooser decision feel happy.

This condition describes that Iwan has two positives motives. The first motive is Iwan must be an employee at Nielsen with great career and salary. The second motive is moving out and work in Danareksa Research Institute, it is bigger company than Nielsen. Finally he selects Danareksa Research Institute and pursue his dream through it.

b. Approach-avoidance-conflict

This conflict is experienced by someone in facing negative and positive motives. Confusing will happen because strong and the best decision will change the condition (example: life or economic problem). This conflict rises together and gives antipodes motive.

Novel“9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple” describes approach-avoidance-conflict that has experienced to Iwan as a main character, like the following quotation:

“Please let me go, please,” I plead. They respond by shoving me into a quitter place under the bridge, near a kindergarten school. My heart almost stops. I can’t stand on my feet. I have never been so afraid for my own life.

This situation explains when Iwan has been robbing and he is trying to beg. The conflict that happens into Iwan is if he let the wallet go he will never

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have money anymore because the wallet is the most precious thing that he has. In other hand, if he doesn't let the wallet go so he must be dead man.

c. Psychological Conflicts

In the "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple", Iwan as the main character here experienced the first psychological conflict shows in the beginning of the novel. The first chapter shows how Iwan struggles with robbing condition and it is continued in little bit of chapter two. Iwan, a new guy in the New York City must be faced by two robbers who want his wallet and must be faced to the death because the robbers use knife to threat him.

The scary situation make Iwan must make decision beside that no one on this spot comes and try to help him. One side he must help his wallet and the only one treasure that he has, the other hand he must be faced to the death.

Iwan's Ego has work and as the quotation above he thinks rationally because likes never hope to survive in that situation. Secondary process of thinking rationally to overcome the problem. Iwan's Ego selects to angry and he fights back to take the most precious thing of him. He does not give up although his live is threatened.

The Psychological conflict happens because Iwan has felt frustrated with condition of Bogor environment and misses the house in Batu. The hardest decision is happen to Iwan and makes conflict into his psychological when he must face unpredictable environment in Bogor. Iwan travels away to Bogor after graduating school and he has accepted as student of IPB. He feel happy because he is the boy from his family who can reach PMDK program in IPB, majoring Statistic but in other hand he feel depression because the bad condition of second home environment in Bogor.

In this case psychological conflict experiences to Iwan when he felt depressed about road condition that he has to go down a step ladder about ten meters away from the road and also he is very uncomforted caused heavily polluted by trash. The biggest conflict in this situation is how miss his heart to home in Batu such as sisters, bamboo bed and his family.

Id's and ego's Iwan to travel away to Batu is very strong. He cannot feel happy like in his house and want to go home. However, superego has a function to calm id and ego. As like definition, Superego has function to control id and ego then human can select the best option and thinking what the effect of activity that will be done. Superego want to Iwan still in Bogor and never give up with every condition. Superego comes from external factor also and the example in Iwan's case is mother's advice.

How to face psychological conflict that has experienced to Iwan. Several experiences of Psychological conflict face Iwan because there is inharmonic desire human being and social reality around him. Moral that is formed by Iwan's family builds strong superego and balances them. Every psychological conflict must be solved to balance among id, ego and superego. Minedrop states that Freud asserts there are some ways for ego to face the psychological conflict named "Ego Defense Mechanism". It is done to reduce the anxiety, those are: reaction formation, sublimation, and repression.

When Iwan desire to back home at the first time in Bogor, id and ego of Iwan come together to force him and try to fill that desire with travel away to Batu. He thinks to keep balance his psychological with superego through mother's advice. He sees that mother is warm and honest spirit that keep him company. He tries to follow his mother's advice. It is called reaction formation. This is a result of secondary process of thinking. Iwan's ego tries to hide his id that is an instinct to break the parent low. Iwan's superego says that mother is the one of man who has to be trusted and followed.

Sublimation is also used by Iwan to hide his desire of psychological conflict when he can no longer stand being apart from his family, when he feels empty and incapable of continuing his journey in Bogor. Iwan cannot get out from reality that he is homebody boy who never leaves sisters and home. He remembers his sisters in Gang Buntu in many time when he in Bogor. The more he remember them, the more miss will be. Id of Iwan comes up from this situation and he still want to back home to create his missed heart not alone anymore. In this case sublimation is used Iwan to face this condition. This describes that ego's Iwan start

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to fight id and want to stay in Bogor. Iwan's mind focuses on many positive activities in IPB and Bogor social.

Iwan uses repression as a tool to solve psychological conflict. Fighting against deep longing that is surrounded by his family back home. He recognizes and controls his ego and id smartly. He represses what he wants until he can give something beautiful for his family. This repression finally gets the great result. Iwan can pass the exam and make a proud to family and hometown, Batu.

d. Moral Value

The position of the main character of novel will determine the whole story. It is because main character is created by author as the main person to deliver the message. Therefore, how the main character has behaved also influence the reader's mind after reading the novel. In this case, Iwan as the main character who is a teenager is written by Iwan Setyawan as a good model. It can be explained how Iwan can solve his psychological conflicts. The way how he solves his psychological conflicts will give the reader message as known as moral value.

Moral values describe accordance how main character, Iwan, faces psychological conflict and pursue his dream. The theme of novel "9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple" is success. Iwan visualizes his struggle from he has born in little village at foot of Mountain Panderman until working as a director into the one of biggest company in the world, in United State of America. The moral values can be describes as the following:

1. Hard Work

When Iwan starts to sail his life into Bogor as the farthest and first time adventure that he has done, hard work is the way to struggle to reach the best position as one of the best graduate in IPB with GPA 3.52. Pursuing a dream is never easy and hard work from Iwan struggle is the key.

2. Love and affection

Facing financial problem of family is not easy to solve. Iwan's family teaches every member of their house to love and support each other with compassion. This is proved when Mbak Isa must allow her opportunity to continue into university.

The other hand, mother as the role model love and affection in the family gives the best example how to support her children with love and affection. When Iwan never feel warmth and comfort zone in Bogor, mother comes although by voice through phone and calm his desire child.

3. Bravery

Leading every step in Iwan journey is never happen if he never has bravery. The easy example is when Iwan must be moved away from Nielsen to Danareksa Research Institute. If Iwan afraid to make decision and never choose next step to Danareksa company because in Nielsen, Iwan has the great career, he will never know how the limit of his ability and also never know United State of America as a director in one of the best company in the world.

CONCLUSION

The novel 9 Summers 10 Autumns: From The City of Apples to The Big Apple describes the life journey of the main character, Iwan, in facing psychological conflicts and the struggle to achieve his dreams. Based on the analysis using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, it was found that the psychological conflicts experienced by Iwan include approach-approach conflict and approach-avoidance conflict. These conflicts occur in various phases of his life, both when facing a robbery in New York and when adapting to a new environment in Bogor.

In resolving his psychological conflict, Iwan uses ego defense mechanisms such as reaction formation, sublimation, and repression. This helps him deal with emotional stress and stay focused on his life goals. The moral message contained in this novel emphasizes the importance of hard work, love and affection for family, and courage in facing life's challenges.

Thus, this study shows that the psychological conflicts in this novel reflect the reality of life and how a person can overcome it through a balance between id, ego, and superego. This analysis strengthens that literature not only presents stories, but also provides a deeper understanding of the dynamics of human psychology.

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