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The Inner Conflict of the Character Dinda in the Novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani

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Abstract *This article tries to analyze the inner conflict experienced by the main character, Dinda, in the novel Kisah untuk Geri by Erisca Febriani. The novel was chosen as the object of research because it contains the inner conflict of Dinda's character, which was explored through the study of literary psychology. This article aims to: (1) show the character Dinda's inner conflict with other characters, (2) identify the causes of inner conflict based on the personality structure of Sigmund Freud's perspective on literary psychology theory, and (3) show that Dinda's character has happiness again. The method used in this research is the descriptive analysis method. Data is obtained through case studies and by collecting data related to Dinda's inner conflict. Based on the results of the research conducted, it shows that: (1) a situation is created as a result of actions and behaviors that cause changes in the activities, attitudes, and roles of the closest people, and (2) Dinda's character resolves inner conflict.*

Keywords: *Dinda's character, inner conflicts, literary psychology, novel*

1. Introduction

Real life problems displayed by an author through their work make a literary work contain many psychological aspects. The role of literary psychology is to flatten this. The author collects the symptoms of the soul and then processes them into text form with his soul equipped. According to Ratna (2013: 343), literary psychology primarily focuses on the psychological elements of fictional characters within a work (Dewi, 2020; Hasanah & Putri, 2021; Wijayanti & Larasati, 2024).

According to Nurgiyantoro (2010: 124), psychological conflict arises when a character struggles against themselves to determine and resolve the issues they face. In novels, inner strife often occurs in the main character, secondary characters, and others (Asih & Nugroho, 2022; Pratama & Hidayati, 2023). This article draws on Sigmund Freud's psychological theory, a perspective developed by the Austrian psychologist from Vienna, who further categorized human personality into three components: the id, the ego, and the superego (Al-Khalidi, 2021; Rosyidah, 2022).

Sigmund Freud stated that the Id is the biological aspect, focusing on the original system in the personality. The Ego, controlled by the principle of reality, is precisely the thought that has been under social guidance and is rational, which expresses itself through language. The superego controls or regulates the correct dose of behavior that can be done or not done. Therefore, Freud states it as a moral principle (Hidayat, 2011; Dewi, 2020).

According to Walgito (2004:77), the superego refers to morality in personality. The superego begins to develop when parents give rewards and punishments to their children (Hasanah & Putri, 2021; Wijayanti & Larasati, 2024).

The novel *Kisah untuk Geri* tells the story of Dinda, a high school teenager. The character's life has changed drastically because her father was involved in corruption. Dinda's life changes from one of luxury to one of economic deprivation. In the novel there are also several other characters including Geri, Jia, Jassy, Kiara, Papa Dinda, Mama Dinda, Papa Geri, Iren, Lusi, Raini, Adit, Budi, Rio, Nathan, Salma, Bi Umnah, Mr. Gun, Mrs. Rena, Mr. Rudi, Aldo, Grandma Aisyah, and Mr. Driver.

The novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani was chosen as the object of research because it contains many inner conflicts within Dinda's character. This research draws on literary psychology theory, which is grounded in Sigmund Freud's perspective on personality structure. The formulation of the problems raised in the study: (1) Dinda's character has an inner conflict with any character; (2) what is the cause of the inner conflict in Dinda's character regarding the personality structure of Sigmund Freud's perspective literary psychology theory; and (3) what makes Dinda's character have happiness again?

The research method used in this study is a descriptive analysis method. The technique aims to analyze the inner conflict of Dinda's character in the novel. Furthermore, the cause of Dinda's inner conflict is examined from the perspective of Sigmund Freud's personality theory and literary psychology. Moreover, it reveals the factors that contribute to Dinda's happiness returning.

The data in this research is descriptive. Data is obtained through case studies regarding inner conflict and word analysis. The stages carried out in this study: (1) reading the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani as a whole; (2) collecting data in the form of sentences and dialog through case studies regarding the inner conflict experienced by Dinda's character; (3) recording Dinda's inner conflict; (4) next, the data is grouped based on the personality structure of Sigmund Freud's perspective literary psychology theory to reveal the cause of Dinda's inner conflict; (6) showing what makes Dinda's character have happiness again; and (7) drawing conclusions.

In research conducted by previous studies, several similar discussions were found. These studies serve as the basis for the literature review in this study. Here are some studies used as a literature review. In 2018, Endah 2018 conducted research with the title "Inner Conflict of Mei Rose's Character in Asma Nadia's Novel Heaven That Isn't Missed (A Study of Kurt Lewin's Literary Psychology)". The research found that (1) the form of inner conflict of the character Mei Rose, the conflict of approaching-close, away-far; and (2) the character Mei Rose uses five styles to resolve inner conflicts, namely the turtle style, shark style, deer style, fox style, and owl style. In 2019, Azizah, Waluyo, and Ulya 2019 conducted research with the title "Review of Literary Psychology and Character Education Values of Ahmad Fuadi's Novel *Rantau*

1 Muara and its Relevance as Teaching Material for Literary Appreciation in High School". In this study, it was found that (1) the intrinsic elements in the novel *Rantau 1 Muara* include theme, characterization, plot, setting, and author's point of view; (2) the psychological conditions experienced by the characters in the novel *Rantau 1 Muara* are influenced by three elements, namely id, ego, and superego; (3) the character education values contained in the novel *Rantau 1 Muara* are 13 values; and (4) the novel *Rantau 1 Muara* can be used as an alternative teaching material for literary appreciation in high school. Savana Konovky and Sutanto in 2020 conducted research with the title "Inner Conflict of the Main Character in the Novel *Daun Yang Jatuh Tak Pernah Membenci Angin Karya* Tere Liye (Review of Literary Psychology)". This study found that (1) describes the main character's inner conflict in the novel, and (2) describes the causes of the main character's inner conflict in the novel.

In a book entitled "*Theory and Application of Personality Psychology in Counseling*" (Hidayat, 2011: 15), Sigmund Freud explained that human personality has a structure consisting of the id (das Es), the ego (das Ich), and the superego (das Über Ich). The personality structure will interact with one another and determine a person's behavior (Yuliani & Putra, 2020; Nugraha, 2021; Safitri & Kurniawan, 2023).

a. Id

The id is the source of psychic energy driving human psychic activities because it contains instincts. The life instinct (eros) drives the fulfillment of biological needs (eating, drinking, sleeping, etc.). The death instinct drives aggressive behavior. The id is primitive because it is illogical.

b. Ego

The ego is the psychological aspect of the personality; it serves as the executive of the personality, making decisions about which instincts to satisfy and how to fulfill them. The ego acts as a mediator between the id and the environment. The ego is directed by the principle of reality to prevent tension until a suitable object is found to be able to satisfy the needs or urges of the id (Hidayat, 2011: 37-38).

c. Superego

Contains the moral component of personality related to community standards or norms regarding good and evil, as well as right and wrong (Hidayat, 2011: 39).

2. Method

This research uses a descriptive analysis method. This method aims to (1.) analyze the inner conflict of Dinda's character in the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani; (2.) identify the causes of Dinda's inner conflict based on the personality structure of Sigmund Freud's perspective literary psychology theory; and (3.) show the things that make Dinda's character have happiness again. The stages carried out in this research are as follows: (1) reading the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani in its entirety; (2) collecting data in the form of sentences and dialogs; (3) next,

conducting a case study on Dinda's inner conflict; (4) recording and categorizing Dinda's inner conflict; (5) identifying the causes of Dinda's inner conflict regarding the personality structure of Sigmund Freud's perspective literary psychology theory in sentences, as well as dialogs; (5) showing what makes Dinda's character happy again; and (6) concluding.

3. Result & Discussion

The novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani is the subject of research because it shows that the wheel of life is spinning. At the beginning of the novel, the character Dinda has a luxurious life. Suddenly, Dinda's life underwent a very drastic change. Dinda's character became wealthless, and her two best friends left her. The inner conflict of Dinda's character in the novel is worthy of being used as a research object.

The following is a discussion of Dinda's character in conflict with other characters.

Dinda's inner conflict with her mother

Dinda has been unable to accept her current life, which is vastly different from her previous one. Dinda stares at her mother with a look of disbelief at her current residence. This is evidenced by the quote below.

Her mother walked over, touched Dinda's shoulder, and rubbed it gently. "Dinda, this is tough, but we have to do it, don't we?" She squeezed her only daughter's shoulder. "We can do this together."

"Isn't there a chance that Papa won't have a problem, Ma? Can we go back to our old home? To our old life?" She tried to build her hope, hoping that what her father had done was not real. That this was all just slander from his political opponents.
His mother shook her head. "Papa has been under surveillance for a long time, Din. I don't know what made Papa lose his mind that night and get caught in the OTT."
"What do we do now, Ma?"

"You still have Mama," Lara replied while holding back tears from falling until her voice sounded discordant. "Okay, don't be sad, there's Mama here," she repeated while squeezing Dinda's shoulder, hoping that with that, they could channel their strength to both strengthen each other through the realities of life (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019: 52).

Dinda's inner conflict with her

Dinda witnessed that her parents were still blaming each other. Dinda mediates the dispute between Papa and Mama. Dinda's inner conflict. Proven by the excerpt below. Together with his mother, Dinda stood behind his father, trying to provide moral support to Setyo.

When Setyo was finally led to prison as a prisoner, Dinda and Laras followed. Once at the KPK detention center, they asked for time to meet Setyo.
In a small room, the three of them met.

Silence prevailed; no one dared to speak up. "Sorry, because of Papa, you have to bear everything." Finally, after a long pause, Setyo spoke up. Lara shook her head. "I've told you many times, I've warned you to be careful, right? Don't enter the illegal domain. See, you never listen, Mas!"Her mother was angry. "Unfortunately, it's not only you, but also Dinda and I who have to bear the brunt. We are already inferior, Mas. Dinda and I have even moved into a rented house...."

"Why are you blaming me? All this time, you never protested about all the luxuries I gave you. Instead, you've been mindlessly having fun, having fun with your social gathering friends. Please don't make me the only one at fault. I used that money to fulfill all your wishes, too."

"Dinda listened to both of them sadly, even in a situation like this, they are still blaming each other".

"You should see the condition of the house that Dinda and I live in now, it's shabby, smelly, and we have to live without you!"

"Mom, that's enough. "Dinda intervened" (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019:63-65).

Dinda's inner conflict with

Dinda's character accidentally meets Rio. Rio in the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* was originally Dinda's boyfriend. However, after Dinda's father was arrested for corruption, Rio disappeared without any news. One day, when Dinda met Rio, it turned out that he was with another girl who claimed to be Rio's girlfriend. This is proven by the quote below.

The guy was not alone; he was holding a girl's hand, kissing her on the cheek, then taking her to the car. Dinda gritted her teeth. Ever since her father was arrested and she turned off her cell phone for a long time, Rio had never tried to find her. When he turned his cell phone on, Rio was the first person he messaged, but the guy didn't reply or text him back.

"Ma, wait here for a moment."

"Where are you going?"

"I have business."

Dinda hurried across the street. Without much time, she approached Rio, who was about to get into his car. Rio looked surprised.

"Dinda? Why are you here?"

"Answer me!"

"Dinda pushed Rio's body so hard that he staggered".

"What do you want?"

"What do you want?" Dinda asked, confused, "I want an explanation!"

The girl Rio had brought earlier got out of the car and met them.
"I'm Rio's girlfriend," she said diplomatically.
"Oh, wait a minute, this is the ex who you said was the son of a corruptor, honey?" Dinda was shocked to hear it. "Ex?" she repeated, incredulous.
"Yes, ex. Since your father was arrested, we've automatically broken up, so don't bother me anymore." Rio said those words coldly (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019:68-69).

Dinda's inner conflict with her

Dinda, who had been out of school for seven days after her father's arrest, finally got up the courage to go to school. Dinda went to school by public transportation. When Dinda arrived at school, her friends gave her an unfavorable response immediately. Her best friends, Jassy and Kiara, pretended not to see Dinda's arrival. This is evidenced by the quote below. "Seven days, and she finally made it through with great difficulty. This morning, she intended to go to school. Not by driver, but by public transportation."

No fancy car dropped her off right in front of the gate; instead, she took public transportation. All eyes seemed to stare at her as she appeared at the gate. The girl sighed heavily, trying to face it with an open chest, repeatedly reciting the mantra in her heart: I can, I can get through this.

Right on cue, just as she made a face, she could feel people laughing at her, as well as feeling intimidated and looked down upon. Whereas Dinda would usually meet them head on, not even hesitating to bump into them, this time she didn't have the strength to deal with them one by one.
She tried not to care as she walked to her class.

However, the situation in the classroom was the same. Her friends were openly whispering to each other while looking at her. Dinda saw Jassy and Kiara, her gangmates, sitting near Jia's seat. "Hi!" She walked over, but her friends looked down, pretending not to notice her presence (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019:70-71).

Dinda's inner conflict with Jia

One school received a birthday invitation from Jia. Dinda's character, who did not get a birthday invitation from Jia. Proven by the quote below.
"Oooh, one second." Jia turned to glance at Kiara, as if searching for something in the list of names and invitations left in Kiara's hand. "Oh, I just remembered! Children of corruptors are on the black list not to come to my event, afraid of problems. I'm afraid they think we're close friends, it's dangerous, then my good name will be tarnished." The girl said her sentence in front of dozens of pairs of ears and managed to make several people laugh out loud and clap their hands, as if the conviction was the funniest joke (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019: 170).

Dinda's inner conflict with Geri

Geri initially yelled at the character Dinda. Dinda suddenly cried for no reason. Letting out some things that had been held back in her heart, as proven by the excerpt below.

"In the car, Geri raised her voice".

"Sir, Ito, her brother's driver, even glanced through the center mirror".

"Your life is all about hurting people."

"Dinda suddenly cried for no reason".

"Yes, that's right! I'm just a pain in the ass, wanting to be obeyed all the time, asking my father for this and that until he gets corrupt."

"Then my mother also became a migrant worker; she's too lazy for me, who can only make things difficult," she said with tears rolling down her cheeks, causing her mascara to wear off, blackening the lower part of her eyelids.

"Now that I'm troubling you too, are you going to leave like them? Leave me alone? All the people in the world are bad! They have no heart!" She continued to cry."

"Geri was silent, at a loss for words to reply. At first, she was so emotional and angry because Dinda mocked Raini."

"I don't want to go home, I just want to sleep here to cool down. It's hot in the room, the fan doesn't work" (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019:185).

Dinda's inner conflict with

The character Dinda did not steal the lipstick from the shop. However, Geri did not want to accept the explanation given by Dinda. This is evidenced by the quote below.

"I met Raini, she was also buying lipstick, I advised her to buy the lipstick. Then she came back, just as I was about to go home, and the alarm went off. Suddenly, I found something in my bag. I'm sure she must have put it in, maybe she had a grudge or ... I don't know."

"Oooh, so now you're telling Raini? Your tendency to always play the victim hasn't changed. "Geri shook her head. "If you want to buy something and don't have money, you don't have to steal. You should have learned from what happened to your father, Din!" Geri looked so angry. She took out her wallet, pulled out a few hundred thousand dollar bills, and handed them to Dinda. "What do you want to buy? Use this money, no need to steal."

Seeing Geri's reaction, Dinda's eyes inevitably glazed over. The tightness in her chest was no longer bearable. I don't know why the universe seemed to conspire to make her even worse, even though she had tried to stand upright, even though the

force of gravity wanted to knock her down, the girl bit her trembling lips (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019: 199).

Based on the explanation above, Dinda's character experiences numerous inner conflicts with other characters. The following discussion examines the causes of inner conflict in relation to Sigmund Freud's perspective on literary psychology theory, as presented in the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani.

Causes of Inner Conflict Through the Element

The id element is found in Dinda's character, whose instinct is to want to have time with her family. However, because of Papa and Mama's busy schedules, it is not that easy for Dinda to get it. Proven by the excerpt below.

> "Where's Papa and Mama?"
>
> "Retro question because Dinda knows the answer. And, of course, in a year, you can count on one hand the two of them at the dining table during breakfast. Yet, for some reason, she always wanted to ask."
>
> "Dad didn't come home, Ma'am. Mom has already left at dawn." "That's the everyday answer to Dinda's question, which is just a formality because she already knows what the answer is".
>
> "Dinda ate her salad in silence. She no longer had the appetite to nag anyone".
>
> "If someone were to ask her what her biggest wish is, the answer would be straightforward: she wants to have more time with her mom and dad. As simple as chatting, exchanging greetings while eating together at the dinner table. Something he never got to experience".
>
> "It was as trivial as watching a television program in the living room while telling each other what they had done all day. A common thing that all other families do, but they never do" (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019:15-17).

Causes of Inner Conflict Through the Id Element

The id element is found in the character Dinda, whose instinct is to want to be loved wholeheartedly by Geri. In her heart, Dinda loves Geri very much. However, Geri loves a character named Raini. At first, Dinda did not love Geri. Dinda's growing sense of comfort with Geri turned into love and a desire to be the lover Geri truly loved. Proven by the quote below.

> "If you're only coming because you feel guilty, you might as well go back. After all, you wouldn't care if I got hurt on the road. Because I'm not Raini."
>
> "There's a hint of jealousy in that statement that Geri picked up on."
>
> "You also take it easy, I can take care of myself well. Do you think because I'm a girl that I'm weak?" Dinda covered her sadness."

> "Girls are just as strong as boys, do you not know that there are female superheroes now? Wonder-Woman and Black Widow" (Kisah untuk Geri, 2019:201).

"Yes, I was always bad and never as good as Raini in your eyes. Yes, I understand, but this world is gray. No one is completely evil, and no one is perfect. Give me one more chance to prove it to you, Ger." That insistence finally came out; Dinda's words turned into tears, like a little boy who was angry with his mother because she hadn't bought him a toy. Geri was stunned by Dinda's crying; she clenched her hands into fists, trying to hold back the emotions that welled up in her chest, resisting the urge to blame herself for making someone cry in such a way just because of her (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019: 265-266).

The id that exists in Dinda wants to be with her papa and mama, and Dinda's desire to be Geri's lover. Dinda realized her identity by simply asking Bi Umnah, and she also discovered another aspect of her identity by being a better woman than Raini for Geri. Dinda shows her feelings for Geri.

Causes of Inner Conflict Through the Ego Element

The element of ego is evident in Dinda's character, who believes that Geri genuinely likes Dinda as well. Dinda got this from Geri's treatment of her. However, reality says otherwise. Geri loves Raini more. Dinda's inner turmoil causes her superego to lose control. Dinda expressed her feelings to Geri. However, Dinda lowered her ego. Proven by the quote below.

> "And you need to know too, I accepted your request to be my girlfriend, simply because I didn't want Raini to get hurt" (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019:264).
>
> "Okay, maybe I did want to use you, that's true, but over time... I got feelings. I'm in love with you!"
>
> "Dinda said in a steady tone, she has never said love to someone, this time she is honest".
>
> "Geri was the first, but to her surprise, he laughed at her words as if she were telling a joke".
>
> "Do you want to make another drama? Aren't you tired?". A sad urge filled Dinda's chest cavity. Even once she spoke honestly to him. Even though Dinda had lowered her pride and ego a little to believe in something called love. "Yes, I was always bad and never as good as Raini in Io's eyes. Yes, I understand, but this world is gray. No one is completely evil, and no one is perfect. Give me one more chance to prove it to you, Ger" (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019:265). The ego inside Dinda still wants Geri as her boyfriend.

Causes of Inner Conflict Through the Element

The superego element is evident in the character Dinda, who has come to terms with her situation, specifically after Geri broke up with her. Geri is dating Raini. However, it turns out that there are facts that were only revealed when Dinda said in the video that Raini told Rio to set her up. Dinda's ego asked Rio to explain to Geri about the video sent by Rio. Dinda's ego returns to dating Geri. Proven by the quote below.

"I'm dating Geri, not because I like her. God forbid, you also know that I hate her..., but just because I have to. It's not bad that I can use him as a shield to protect me from anyone, as well as to take revenge on Jia, who has always wanted to be Geri's boyfriend (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019:264).

"I want to confess to you," Rio said quietly. Dinda walked over to Geri while pulling Rio to stand in front of the boy.

"So... actually, the video that I sent to you was Raini's plan. She asked me for help to take revenge on Dinda because she was hurt by the incident of Dinda running over her in the school toilet the other day, then... she asked me to invite Dinda to meet, and before that she had put some drug that could make her drunk (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019: 309-310). In the quote, Dinda asked Rio to explain the video to Geri.

The thing that makes Dinda happy

Dinda's character has happiness again, as evidenced by the quote below. "Two years, Din, and I came just in time. Geri took something out of the pocket of her jeans. Kneeling, she treated Dinda like a queen. She opened a velvet box to reveal a ring inside.

"So my fiancé, huh?"

"You haven't even dated yet, you're getting engaged?"

"Just now, you pressed want." "No! It's a virus." "Accepted or not? Kneeling like this is also tired, you know."

"Dinda laughed happily, then nodded. A ring of white gold Geri slipped onto her right ring finger, perfectly circular".

"In the past, she had imagined what it would be like to be loved by Geri sincerely". "Now, her prayers have come true. Her title has returned. Dinda is the girl who is always happy" (*Kisah untuk Geri*, 2019:388-389).

4. Conclusion

Based on the research that has been conducted on the novel *Kisah untuk Geri* by Erisca Febriani, Dinda's character has an inner conflict with her mother's character, Dinda's character has an inner conflict with her parents (Papa's character and Mama's character), Rio, Dinda's character has an inner conflict with her schoolmates, Dinda's character has an inner conflict with Geri's character, and Dinda's character has an inner conflict with Jia's character.

The cause of Dinda's inner conflict in this novel relates to Sigmund Freud's perspective on literary psychology theory, which encompasses the elements of the id, ego, and superego. Dinda's happiness returns when Geri comes to propose to her. This moment is what she has been waiting for a long time to be loved sincerely by Geri. Declaration of Conflicting Interests Please state any conflicting interests of this publication and research. If there is no, please type: The authors state that there is no conflict of interest in the publication of this article.

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