

TRIPARTITE DEPICTION ON THE MAIN CHARACTER IN A MAN CALLED OVE NOVEL

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Abstract

This research to analyze psychology of literature as seen in the character Ove in the novel "A Man Called Ove". In this way, researchers can better understand how psychological elements work in the characters of the story. This study helps the researcher and other studies look deeper into the personalities and interactions between characters, which enriches the researcher's and other studies' understanding of literature and psychology.

This study aims to analyze how the Freudian tripartite (consisting of id, ego, and superego) is portrayed in Ove's character in the novel A Man Called Ove. This research aims to uncover and interpret how Ove's behaviors and conflicts fit into Freud's theoretical framework, providing a deeper understanding of the psychological complexities underlying Ove's character portrayal. In this study, the researcher used a method called qualitative method. This method helps the researcher better understand the story A Man Called Ove by using Freud's psychoanalytic theory. This method is useful because it allows the researcher to carefully examine, interpret, and analyze the story.

Based on the findings, the research show that the main character's id - Ove id is depicted through often displaying impulsive and emotional traits. He sometimes acts without thinking about the consequences and is greatly affected by his emotions. Ove's anger and dissatisfaction towards his neighbors who make his life difficult. His ego is portrayed through a person who is very orderly and organized in doing everything. He also has strong leadership and can solve problems well, although sometimes he is stubborn. And his superego is portrayed through having high moral standards and upholding traditional values. He has great respect for rules and adheres to the principles of honesty, integrity.

Keywords: *A Man Called Ove*, Freudian psychoanalysis, psychology of literature, tripartite

INTRODUCTION

Sigmund Freud's Tripartite is the theory of psychic structure proposed by the founder of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud. "Tripartite" is a word of Latin origin that consists of two parts: "tri-", meaning three, and "-partite", meaning divided into three parts or components. According to (Freud, 1958) the human mind is divided into three main interrelated parts, namely Id, Ego, Superego. This concept provides the basis for a deeper understanding of a person's Psychological dynamics and helps explain various aspects of human behavior. Tripartite are Id, Ego and Superego, often known as psychological analysis. In the early 1990s, Sigmund Freud introduced psychoanalysis to treat patients suffering from a specific mental illness but, this technique is also still useful for examining literature (Amelia & Daud, 2020).

Psychology in literature presents a variety of interesting issues to be explored. One important issue is the depiction of mental health and psychological disorders in literature (Wulandari & Samanik, 2020). Analyzing how these issues are portrayed in literature not only provides insight into the experiences of individuals facing mental health challenges, but also raises questions about stigma, representation, and the impact of societal attitudes on individuals' perceptions of themselves and others (Wiyatami, 2011). As research has mentioned above, psychology in literature studies human behavior. In this case, the behavior in question is the behavior of the characters in literary work. (Samanik, 2018) describe the behavior can be very depending on our point of view, for example, a grumpy person, who likes to point at people he doesn't like if they were thieves caught outside his bedroom window.

The researcher chose a novel entitled *A Man Called Ove* which was published in 2015 and became the New York Times bestselling author of the novel for several reasons. Firstly, with this issue an analysis of how aloneness affects Ove's behavior and perception of the world around him could be an interesting focal point. By exploring various themes and issues such as depression, trauma, and difficulty adapting to change and its impact on Ove's changing attitudes and behaviors, which appear in *A Man Called Ove*, readers can gain a deeper understanding of the complexity of human character and the dynamics of human relationships.

Secondly, the novel emphasis on emotional complexity *A Man Called Ove* as seen from personal change Ove's emotional journey includes significant personal changes. From a possibly cold and rude person to begin with, he develops into a character who is more empathetic and open to those around him. The emotional complexity lies in this change process, which involves internal conflicts and moral consideration. The urgency of the research depicts and explores different layers of human emotions, including loneliness, loss, and hope. This reflects the reality of life where personal change is often influenced by basic drives, adaptation to reality and moral considerations. Analyzing the main character, Ove, using Freud's tripartite concept is important because it helps us understand his internal conflicts, personality, and social relationships more deeply. By understanding how the Id, Ego, and Superego as cited by (Freud, 1958) interact in Ove's mind, we can see how his character is formed, how he relates to others, and how he copes with his feelings of inferiority. This provides a deeper insight into the emotional and psychological journey of the main character in the novel. Lastly, through researching the novel readers can develop their literary analysis skills, *A Man Called Ove* is known for its complex main characters, readers can understand how characters are built, how characters development occurs, and how psychological elements are applied in the process of character creation.

Psychoanalysis, a psychological theory developed by Sigmund Freud in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, has had a profound influence on literature. Freud's theory centers on the idea that human behavior is determined by unconscious conflicts, desires, and traumas, often stemming from childhood experiences. These unconscious elements shape an individual's personality, motivations, and actions. In literature, writers often use psychoanalytic concepts such as id, ego, superego (Freud, 1958). Over time, the involvement of psychologists and researchers in detailing the nuances of the id, ego, and superego will continue to enrich our understanding of the mysteries of the human mind, psychoanalysis reveals unconscious conflicts that influence human behavior (Arnetta & Amelia, 2022).

Tripartite Characteristic

The Tripartite concept helps us understand how human personality is formed and functions. By dividing personality into three main parts - id, ego and superego - we can see how they interact with each other. This helps to understand the internal conflicts that may arise within a person.

Id

In the development of psychology, the id concept proposed by Sigmund Freud has become an important foundation in understanding the structure and function of the human mind. The id, according to him, is the unconscious part of the mind that contains instinctual drives and basic instincts (Freud, 1923). Freud viewed the id as the most primitive and uncontrollable part of the personality that exists in the human mind and also that operates on the principle of pleasure and without regard for social norms or external reality.

Ego

The ego acts as a link between the id, which represents instant needs, and the superego, which reflect internal moral norms. The ego is responsible for fulfilling these needs in a way that is acceptable to the superego and external reality. Although the ego tries to maintain balance, internal conflicts can arise.

Superego

The superego develops during childhood and adolescence as a result of identification with parents or other authoritative figures. It includes moral, norms, rules, and values that guide an individual's behavior. The superego functions as an internal controller, responsible for feelings of guilt and shame when individuals violate its moral norms.

METHOD

In this research, the researchers use the qualitative method as the main approach to analyze the novel *A Man Called Ove* using Freudian psychoanalysis theory. Qualitative method is a research approach that prioritizes in-depth understanding of the phenomenon under study through detailed description, interpretation, and context analysis (John, 2010). In analyzing the *A Man Called Ove* novel, qualitative methods can be used to understand the characters, themes, and messages contained in it more deeply. This choice is based on several considerations that strengthen the researcher's success in conducting the analysis and the accuracy of the analysis in learning more complexities about character psychology. Qualitative method also provides the flexibility needed to explore the depth and complexity of the psychological elements that appear in the novel. The advantage of the qualitative method also lies in its ability to explore context and meaning. In character analysis, it is important to understand the background, life events, and interpersonal relationships that shape the character's psychology (Emily, 2018).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the focus of the analysis is to answer the research question of How is the Freudian tripartite depicted on Ove character. As the main character of the *A Man Called Ove* Novel, Ove's actions and personality affect the plot of the whole story. Sigmund Freud in *The Id and The Ego* (1923), states that the elements that affect human personality are determined into three forms; Id, Ego and Superego. Therefore, the analysis of the elements of the Id, Ego and Superego is focused on Ove as the main character.

1. ID (UNCONSCIOUS)

(Freud, 1923) says that the id is the aspect of our mind that is born with drives and desires that lead to the immediate and complete satisfaction of our desires. The id is related to the unconscious, identified as primitive instincts connected with an aggressive nature.

DATUM 1

Ove sat in his favorite chair in the living room, enjoying the quiet of the afternoon. However, the silence was suddenly interrupted by a rumbling noise outside. He rushed to the window and watched in bewilderment as a truck trailer driven by his new neighbor damaged his beautiful flower plants. Without hesitation, Ove felt anger welling up inside him. He felt a pressure in his chest, a feeling of frustration engulfing his mind. Although his voice was obscured by the sound of the trailer's wheels constantly rolling, his anger was tangible. **Ove: "What the hell is this?", Ove shouted thunderously from the window Ove: "What are you doing?" Ove roared at the woman. Parvaneh: "Yeah that's what I'm asking myself too" Ove: "You can't drive here! Can't you read?" (P.22)**

Ove appears to be very impulsive in his responses to the situations he faces. He reacts with unconsidered anger and rudeness, without thinking about the long term consequences or effects of his actions. This impulsive behavior can be attributed to Ove's difficulty in controlling his emotional impulses, such as anger or frustration, which may be caused by feelings of loss of control or security. In the context of impulsivity, Ove's behavior reflects an inability to control his basic human drives and instincts, as described in the Freudian concept of the Id. (Freud, 1923) describe psychoanalysis theory, human behavior is influenced by three personality structures: the id, ego and superego. The id is the part of the mind that controls the basic human drives, which operate on the pleasure principle to fulfill immediate needs without regard for long-term consequences (Freud, 1923). Ove may experience conflict between his basic drives, such as the need for control or security, and his ability to control his actions. Ove seems to react impulsively to situations that cause him discomfort or dissatisfaction when Ove feels a situation is out of his control, such as when someone disobeys a rule he believes in, he may respond with anger or rudeness in an attempt to regain his sense of control or security. This suggests that Ove may have difficulty in handling uncertainty or unexpected changes in his environment. When he yells and threatens others, this may be an attempt

to regain his sense of control or security. (Freud, 1923) describe, impulsive behavior often arises in response to a conflict between basic drives and ego control. Ove's situation also reflects a basic tenet of impulse theory, where individuals react quickly and without consideration to an external stimulus (Moeller, Dougherty, Barratt, & Schmitz, 2001). Ove does not seem to think about the consequences of his actions when he unleashes anger or rudeness towards others, demonstrating his lack of impulse control. In Ove's case, his impulsive responses can also be understood as an attempt to fulfill unmet psychological needs, such as the need for recognition or control (Barratt, 2001). When individuals feel threatened or unsafe in their environment, they tend to react impulsively as a defense mechanism to protect themselves (Misnawati & Pranoto, 2022). Ove's impulsive behavior in the given situation can be understood through the lens of Freud's psychoanalytic theory and modern impulse theory. The conflict between basic drives and ego control, as well as the need for control and security, may be the main cause of his impulsive behavior. Ove's uncontrolled impulsive responses also reflect his lack of impulse control, in accordance with the concepts in Id theory (Freud, 1923)

2. EGO (REALITY)

DATUM 2

After a moment's reflection, Ove realized that his pent-up anger wouldn't solve anything. He decided to talk to his new neighbor amicably to find a better solution. When Patrick delivered his apology, Ove responded in a calmer manner, demonstrating his ability to balance emotions with rational thought. Although there is still tension, Ove tries to reach a middle ground with his neighbor, showing a more balanced and understanding attitude. **Patrick:** *"My bad! My bad! Sorry, I didn't see the mailbox in the rearview mirror. It's so hard, I don't know where to turn in this trailer..."* **Ove:** *"How can anyone not be able to reverse a car with a trailer?"* He thought (P.25)

Sigmund Freud, in his theory of psychoanalysis, divided human personality into three main components: Id, Ego, and Superego. These three elements interact to shape individual behavior. The Id is the source of instinctual drives that seek immediate gratification, the Superego represents internalized moral laws and social norms, while the Ego acts as a mediator that attempts to balance the demands of the Id and Superego with external reality (Freud, 1923). Using this framework, the researcher can analyze Ove's behavior in his interaction with his neighbor Patrick. After reflecting for a while, Ove realizes that his pent-up anger will not solve any problems. The decision to talk to his neighbor in a friendly manner reflects his strong Ego function. Ove's Ego successfully suppresses his angry impulses, which are a representation of the Id, and chooses a more rational and constructive approach (Freud, 1923). This shows that Ove's Ego is able to manage his instinctual impulses and seek a more realistic and productive solution. When Patrick expressed his apology by saying, *"My bad! My bad! Sorry, I didn't see the mailbox in the rearview mirror. It's so hard, I don't know where to turn in this trailer..."*, Ove responds more calmly. This calm response demonstrates the Ego's ability to balance emotions with rational thought (Freud, 1923). In this case, Ove shows good self-control, which is the main function of the Ego in managing the Id's impulses to conform to the social norms internalized by the Superego. Although there is still tension, Ove tries to reach a middle point with his neighbor. This effort illustrates the Ego's ability to seek compromise and integrate the needs of the Id with the demands of the Superego, thus creating a more balanced and understanding response (Freud, 1923). Ove's decision to seek a middle ground demonstrates the Ego's ability to navigate conflicts and find solutions that not only satisfy personal urges but are also socially acceptable. Ove's internal thoughts, as seen in his reflection, *"How can anyone not be able to reverse a car with a trailer?"* indicate a conflict between an angry and frustrated Id and an Ego trying to control external responses (Freud, 1923). This thought reflects the constant work of the Ego in managing instinctual drives and maintaining socially acceptable behavior, it shows how the Ego attempts to balance instinctual drives with the demands of social reality. Ove's behavior in this narrative reflects the effective functioning of the Ego in managing internal and external conflicts. Ove demonstrates how the Ego works to achieve a balance between emotions and the demands of social reality, and how individuals can develop more rational and understanding responses in the face of challenging situations (Freud, 1923).

3. SUPEREGO (MORALITY)

DATUM 3

Ove stood in the middle of his orderly and well-appointed neighborhood. He looked around with pride, witnessing the well-maintained homes of his neighbors, with no glaring defects or damage. He feels a responsibility to keep his neighborhood orderly and safe, as he has always done over the years. **Ove:** *"The residents' association does*

not allow vehicles to be used here, and you'd better obey.” Ove snorted as she returned to her house with fierce steps. (P.27)

In this narrative, the research sees how Ove's character shows his superego side through his actions and attitudes towards his environment. The superego, according to the theory (Freud, 1923) is an aspect of personality that functions as the guardian of moral rules and values accepted by individuals from their social environment. When looking at Ove in this narrative, it is possible to identify several aspects of his superego that are revealed. Firstly, Ove shows a strong sense of responsibility towards his environment. He feels he has an obligation to maintain order and safety around his neighborhood. This is reflected in his pride in an orderly and good neighborhood, as well as his desire to ensure that his neighbors abide by the established rules. This corresponds to (Freud, 1923)'s concept of the superego as the guardian of internalized moral standards. Secondly, Ove enforces the rules firmly with others. When he talks to his neighbors about the prohibition of vehicle use in their neighborhood, we see how he does not hesitate to enforce the established norms. This assertiveness reflects Ove's strong internal control, which is guided by his moral values. However, we can also see a hint of anger or frustration in Ove's actions towards his new neighbor. Although he tries to maintain order and abide by the rules, when these rules are broken by his neighbor, he may feel annoyed or lose control of the situation, this is an example of how the conflict between the id (personal needs and drives) and the superego (moral standards) can arise in a person's personality (Freud, 1923). In this whole analysis, we see how Ove is a good representative of the superego side of his personality. Ove portrays upholding moral and ethical values, as well as responsibility towards his society, as described by (Freud, 1923)'s theory of the superego.

CONCLUSION

This study chose the novel *A Man Called Ove* as the focus of analysis because it illustrates the complexity of characters and the dynamics of human relationships. The main focus is on how solitude affects Ove's behavior and emotional journey, as well as how Freud's tripartite concept is displayed in his character. Through this approach, readers can gain a deeper understanding of human psychological complexity and improve their literary analysis skills. An in-depth analysis of how solitude affects Ove's behavior helps readers understand themes such as trauma and difficulty adapting to change that affect his attitude and behavior. According to Freud's (1923) theory of psychoanalysis, human behavior is influenced by unconscious conflicts stemming from childhood experiences. This analysis shows how Ove experiences changes in attitude and behavior in response to the solitude and life challenges he faces. This research highlights the importance of the tripartite concept in understanding Ove's character. According to Freud (1923), the tripartite consists of the id, ego, and superego, which represent basic drives, ego control, and internal moral views, respectively. Through this tripartite analysis, readers can see how the internal conflict between unconscious drives and ego control affects Ove's behavior, as well as how his internal moral views play a role in his decision-making. This research uses qualitative methods to analyze data from the novel itself and other relevant sources. As explained by John (2010), a qualitative approach provides an in-depth understanding of the phenomenon being studied through description, interpretation, and analysis of context. An in-depth analysis of Ove's character reveals his psychological complexity, showing internal conflicts between basic drives (Id) and ego control (Ego), as well as internal moral views (Superego). The results of the analysis show that Ove often reacts impulsively to situations that cause discomfort or dissatisfaction, reflecting the internal conflict between basic drives (Id) and ego control (Ego). However, Ove also demonstrates the ability to control his emotions and achieve a balance between personal drives and social norms. This is in line with Freud's (1923) theory that the ego acts as a mediator between the id and superego, trying to balance personal needs and social demands. This study provides a deeper understanding of character psychology and the relevance of Freudian theory in literary analysis.

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