

Portrayal of Hallucination in Coraline Graphic Novel

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Abstrak – Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis isu Halusinasi dalam Novel Grafis Caroline. Kondisi seseorang yang mengalami melihat, mendengar, merasakan, mencium dan mengecap hal-hal yang tidak nyata adalah Halusinasi. Banyak hal yang dapat menyebabkan halusinasi. Salah satunya adalah keinginan yang sangat kuat untuk mendapatkan sesuatu. Novel grafis Coraline memiliki banyak bukti halusinasi yang dialami tokoh utama. Freud (1953) merasa bahwa halusinasi sangat mirip dengan mimpi dan kedua kondisi tersebut mewakili keadaan psikotik di mana tidak ada rasa waktu sama sekali. Coraline selalu memasuki dunia paralel ketika dia tidur dan melihat orang tuanya dalam berbagai bentuk dan sifat. Analisis yang digunakan adalah pendekatan psikologi dari teori Psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud. Pendekatan psikologis dapat digunakan untuk menganalisis karakter dalam sebuah karya. Karakter utama dan halusinasinya penting untuk dianalisis. Fokus penelitian ini adalah menemukan konfirmasi Id, Ego, dan Super Ego dari halusinasi Coraline. Metode yang digunakan adalah kualitatif dalam menganalisis novel grafis. Dari hasil analisis, dapat diperhatikan bahwa halusinasi yang diciptakan oleh tokoh utama disebabkan oleh dampak dari pengasuhan orang tua. Id muncul dikarenakan Caroline sangat mendambakan perhatian Ibunya, sehingga muncul halusinasi versi dirinya dari alam bawah sadar sebagai Ego. Pada akhirnya Caroline mampu memahami posisi diri dan orangtuanya sehingga timbul superego sebagai kesadaran diri.

Kata Kunci: karakter utama, psikologis, halusinasi, Id, Ego, Superego

Abstract - The purpose of this study is to analyze the Hallucinations issue in the Graphic Novel Caroline. The condition when someone who experiences sees, hears, feels, smells and tastes things that are not real is Hallucinations. Many things can cause hallucinations. One of them is a very strong desire to get something. The graphic novel Coraline has abundant evidence of the hallucinations experienced by the main character. Freud (1953) felt that hallucinations were very much like dreams and that both conditions represented a psychotic state in which there is no sense of time at all. Coraline always enters a parallel world when she sleeps and sees her parents in different forms and traits. The analysis used psychological approach from Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalytic theory. The psychological approach can be used to analyze the characters in a work. The main character and her hallucinations are important for analysis. The focus of this study is to find confirmation of Id, Ego, and Super Ego from Coraline's hallucinations. The method used is qualitative in analyzing graphic novels. From result of analysis, it can be seen that hallucinations created by the main character are due to the impact of parenting. The Id emerged because Caroline really longed for her mother's attention, so a hallucinatory version of herself emerged from the subconscious as Ego. In the end, Caroline was able to understand the position of herself and her parents so that the superego emerged as self-awareness.

Keywords: main character, psychoanalysis, hallucination, id, ego, superego

INTRODUCTION

“Coraline” is a strange and terrifying fantasy story in form of graphic novel format. It is written by Neil Gaiman and illustrated by P. Craig Russell. This book can be “horror” for adolescent because this book attracts the reader's attention with scary events and strange happenings. The main character, a teenage girl who is often abandoned by her mother, suddenly finds a dream gate where she finds another, evil version of her parents. but deep within this horror story reflects a child's fear of being abandoned by his parents so that basically a child can fantasize about anything as her outcome, including making hallucinations. It could be said that one of the main topics of this story is based on psychological analysis. Hallucinations are perceptual disorders in which a person hears, feels, smells, or sees things that are not there. Under certain conditions, hallucinations can result in threats to oneself and others. People with hallucinations often have a strong belief that what they are experiencing is a real perception, so it



often causes problems in everyday life. The impact that can be caused by patients who experience hallucinations is to lose self-control. In this condition, patients can commit suicide (suicide), kill other people (homicide), and even damage the environment around them (Hall, C.S., Lindzey, G. & Campbell, J.B., 1998). As a sample case, Vincent van Gogh was a famous painter who had a strange behavior. The strangeness of his behavior led experts to diagnose that he was touched by Schizophrenia. According to the story of Paul Gauguin (a fellow profession), van Gogh once heard the voice "kill him" in his ear. The whispering ended with van Gogh cutting off his own ear. This is due to his Hallucinations as a symptom of Schizophrenia, including hallucinations about voices.

In a more recent case, the chant "*begitu syulit lupakan Rehan*" ('it's so hard to forget Rehan') has been buzzing on social media. The celebrity singer of the lyrics, Intan Lembata, is now viral. In fact, his face is also emblazoned in a cartoon on President Joko Widodo's Instagram. By many circles, the figure of Rehan mentioned in Intan's song is just a hallucination. Clinical psychologist and founder of the consulting center Anastasia and Associates, Anastasia Sari Dewi, explained that hallucinations are a condition in which the five senses can respond to something that is not really there. Be it sight, hearing, smell, or taste. "(Hallucinations) are different from just imagining. If the delusion is done when the person is conscious, then the mind is made up. For example, people daydream, imagining in their minds," Sari explained. Sari further explained that hallucinations are different from mere imagining. A person who fantasizes may realize that what he sees or hears is only in his mind and is not really happening. Meanwhile, people who are hallucinating experience immediate responses to their five senses. "Hallucinations are identical to our five senses, where our five senses can feel or receive a response from something that doesn't really exist. Our five senses are identical to the real world, now eyes, ears, nose, mouth, skin," explained Sari to detikcom, Thursday (29/9/2022).

Hallucinations are sensations created by one's mind without any real source. This disorder can affect the function of the five senses. Hallucinations are a psychological phenomenon that has several important clinical implications. It is also the most severe and confusing form of psychopathology. Considered a hallmark of psychosis, as it is found in a variety of medical and psychiatric conditions. Phenomenologically, it is a very important perceptual disorder. Until now, the exact cause and pathogenesis of hallucinations is unknown, which indicates several etiological factors in hallucinatory phenomena. While hallucinations are usually a symptom of a psychosis-related disorder, especially schizophrenia, hallucinations can also occur as a result of substance use, or a neurological condition. Freud (in Nazim Jamal, 2023) argued that hallucinations are very similar to dreams and that both states represent a psychotic state in which there is no sense of time at all. It occurs when thoughts are converted into visual images. According to Kolb and Brodie (2018), hallucinations are intrusions of preconscious or unconscious material into certain psychological needs. Such as wish fulfillment, increased self-esteem, feelings of guilt. The content of the hallucinations is thought to reflect their psychodynamic significance. The term psychoanalysis itself appeared in 1896. Sigmund Freud did not explain his psychoanalytic theory at all. Sigmund Freud's Personality Structure discussed the divisions of psychism:

a. Id (ourselves)

Id acts like an absolute ruler, must be respected, spoiled, arbitrary, and selfish; what he wants must be done immediately. The way the id works is related to the principle of pleasure, which is always seeking pleasure and always avoiding discomfort.

b. Ego (devil)

The ego is between two opposing and guarded forces and obeys the principle of reality the task of the ego to give place to the main mental functions, for example reasoning, problem solving and decision making. For this reason, the ego is the chief leader in personality; like a company leader who can make rational decisions for the progress of the company. The id and ego have no morality because they do not recognize good and bad values.

c. Superego (angel)

The third structure is the superego which refers to morality in personality. (Telling about desires and the presence of inhibited norms) The superego is the same as the 'conscience' which recognizes good and bad values (conscience). An example is someone's ego wanting to use illegal drugs because he has special needs for himself and then he wants to consume the drug excessively and unconditionally as recommended by a doctor. But the id of the person wants to forcibly consume those drugs freely. Then the superego arises and mediates with the assumption that it is a behavior or norm that is prohibited in the country.

Not only in real world, characters in literary works have also different behaviors that indicate some psychological traits. Behavior reflects a person's soul or mental state. Through behavior, a person's state of mind can be explained. According to Notoatmodjo (2003: 7) behavior is the action or activity of the man himself has a very

wide range, including: walking, talking, crying, laughing, working, studying, writing, reading, and so on. Abnormal behavior (abnormal behavior) for psychologists is often referred to as disorder behavior (behavior disorder), or some call it mental again illness (Morgan in Atkinson, 2010: 406). This opinion is also supported by Supratiknya opinion that abnormal behavior is roughly equivalent to mental disorders. This behavior has a detrimental impact on individuals or even for the community (Supratiknya, 1995:15). In this study, the focus is limited to analysis of hallucinations experienced by the main character “Caroline” using psychological approach of Sigmund Freud's Id, Ego, and Super Ego. There are many studies about Freud psychoanalysis especially id, ego, and superego in literary works, for example from Nazim Jamal, B., & JaF, S. R. R. (2023). Their title “Id, Ego and Superego in McCarthy’s Novel the Road” illustrate human struggle for personality survival under a circumstance in which the law collapses and the ethics that are the basis of human interaction in the life of Ed, its main character. Another from Khofifa R. Endrawati, Tini Moge, & Merlin M. Maukar (2022). They analyzed Id, Ego and Superego of Cruella, a main character in a movie. They discovered Cruella has an alter-ego as Estella, who has id as her leading thought, ego that quite often leading her psyche and superego that is the least dominant than as Cruella.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this paper we use a qualitative method to analyze the graphic novel “Coraline”. Graphic novels are similar to comic books in that they use sequential art to tell a story. Graphic novels are generally stand-alone stories with complex plots. In collecting data, several methods were taken. First, reading the graphic novel. Second, identifying the use of language style and identifying characters. Third, noting the psychoanalytic problems involved in analyzing this graphic novel. Finally, classifying the data found into our Psychoanalytic type. For this data collection step includes setting limits on data collection research through observation, documents, and visual materials, as establishing for recording information (Creswell, 2014). Research on this graphic novel uses a literary psychology review. This study was carried out by emphasizing on the textual aspects using the objective approach which examines the psychological aspects of this novel. According to Abrams in Endraswara (2008:9), an objective approach is suitable if a study focuses on literary texts. Then the data acquired from the object were analyzed using id, ego, superego theory from Freud.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The story in graphic novel is more straightforward than the highly stylized character designs featured in the film, with a realistic representation of Coraline, her parents and the other major characters and giving it more of the feeling one might conjure up on one’s own mind when reading the prose version. The data selected by the writers to explain the hallucinatory psychoanalysis faced by the main character in Coraline graphic novel is presented one by one using Sigmund Freud's theory explained in chronological order. It is necessary to explain the hallucinatory psychoanalysis between id, ego, and superego experienced by the main character in the Coraline graphic novel.

1. Caroline Id

The first aspect of personality is Id. Id is natural human instinct that has been there since birth. It works to gain psychic energy which is used to activate other personality structures. As discussed previously, Id acts like an absolute ruler, must be respected, spoiled, arbitrary, and selfish. The way the id works is related to the principle of pleasure, which is always seeking pleasure and always avoiding discomfort.



Picture 1, Coraline id (page 18)

In the story depicted in page 18, it is shown the main character Id. Datum 1 is a scene where Coraline doesn't get good attention from her mother, her mother is more focused in front of the computer for working, you can see from her ordering Coraline to remind her about buy Caroline's the things for school then Coraline face showed annoyance through the dialogue "hmpfh, I supposed I shall have to get you new school clothes, remind me, dear or else I'll forget." And she also asks Coraline to write, but Coraline writes badly but her mother praises her, because her mother doesn't want to make a fuss, she just wants rush to work "mm, very modern, dear" (Gaiman & Russell, 2008). This defines an Id of the main character from the scene on this page the literal needs that the main character does not get are parental love and parental attention, but because she does not get these, her own imaginary family is created so the main character being Hallucination.

2 Caroline Ego



Picture 2. Coraline Ego (page 31)

In the story Coraline on the page describes Coraline's hallucinating ego. The ego in Coraline appears based on the principle of reality. This ego will choose to follow the superego or id. In other words, ego means self. The self that determines to follow the id or superego. The analysis from this datum is that Coraline's ego appears to be a hallucination with fake parents in a parallel world. Coraline imagines in her hallucinations that she has a mother and who is always there with her. For the passage "We've been waiting for you for a long time," said Starving. According to the Coraline's book by Gaiman N. & Russell P. C. (2008) Coraline said "Me?". And the mother from a parallel world said "Yes, it wasn't the same here without you, but we know you'd arrive one day and then we could be a proper family" (Gaiman N. & Russell P. C., 2008). From their conversation it can be concluded, Coraline's parallel world has just been formed and started. Caroline hallucinates that there are parents from another world waiting for her arrival. Caroline's ego chose to hallucinate rather than accept reality in order to fulfill her feelings. The ego is a person's desire or readiness to satisfy her desires, also known as the id. Because she is unable to achieve happiness in the actual world, Coraline's ego emerges in the graphic novel version of the story. The mind is influenced by the ego because it confuses reality with hallucinations.

3 Caroline Super Eg



Picture 3. Coraline Super Ego (page 157)

The superego is moral and orderly. The superego comes from environmental values, religious or parental teachings, and the advice we get. However, not all superego desires are rational. This depends on the lessons or values that a person follows. In this case Coraline tries to understand real life and leave the parallel world or the world of hallucinations. Furthermore, she tries to live her life and make peace with the situation. For the passage, Coraline walked up to her father. From Gaiman N. & Russell P. C. (2008) in the book, Coraline's father said "Hullo, what was that for?". And then Coraline said "Nothing. I just miss the sometimes." From this quote, it can be seen that Coraline followed the real situation. She was not hallucinating anymore, but making what he wanted come true. Coraline's parents' lack of love for her is the root of her mental illness. In the real world, she needs love. However, she picks her superego through hallucinations because she does not understand it. The superego differs greatly from the outside world. Caroline should have looked for and approached her parents when she needed them. It is possible to foster and fight for the bond between children of parents.



Picture 4. Another Coraline super ego (page 185)

The whole story ends in page 185, describe Coraline sleeping soundly because the problem she is facing has ended "As the first stars came out, Coraline finally allowed herself to drift into sleep while the gentle upstairs music of the mouses circus spilled out onto the warm evening air, telling the world that the summer almost done" (Gaiman & Russell, 2008). It means she has recovered from the hallucinatory psychological disorder she has experienced. The conclusion faced by the main character starting from Id, the natural thing that is needed is to get attention from parents, make him create an ego that is hallucinating to create a parallel world where she can get the love of his imaginary parents because she is aware of the untruth of all things is deception, finally he found a super ego, namely the lesson she took, she returned to the real world and closed the hallucination door access, ending with the lesson that Coraline became a more grateful child in accepting her destiny, understanding the position of parents.

CONCLUSION

A hallucination is a sensory experience of something that does not actually exist and has no basis in reality. As experienced by the main character in Coraline's story. Based on the data analysis using Sigmund Freud's theory to explain the hallucinatory psychoanalysis between id, ego, and superego, it can be concluded that hallucinations created by the main character are due to the impact of parenting. As the result, the lesson that can be drawn from Coraline's story is to pay attention to the growth and development of children and do not let children be lonely.

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