

THE ANXIETIES OF FRANKIE IN THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING

BY CARSON MCCULLERS

A Thesis

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ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini membahas tentang gambaran psikologis yang dialami oleh Frankie Addams sebagai tokoh utama dalam novel karya Carson McCullers, The Member of The Wedding. Masalah psikologi yang paling menonjol dalam diri Frankie adalah masalah kecemasan. Frankie Addams digambarkan mengalami berbagai kecemasan yang disebabkan oleh kondisi lingkungan yang tidak seimbang, tidak adanya perhatian dari keluarga dan penolakan dari teman-teman.

Dalam pengumpulan data penulis menggunakan metode studi kepustakaan dan untuk menganalisa permasalahan yang ditemukan, penulis menggunakan pendekatan objektif, didukung dengan teori psikologi sastra yang dikemukakan oleh Sigmund Freud mengenai teori kecemasan dan dilanjutkan dengan mekanisme pertahanan diri. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif karena menggunakan metode deskriptif sebagai metode penyajian data.

Dari penelitian ini, penulis menemukan bahwa pengaruh dari konflik-konflik psikologi yang dialami oleh Frankie menimbulkan kecemasan dalam dirinya. Kecemasan tersebut tidak berlangsung dalam jangka waktu yang lama karena Frankie menekan kecemasan tersebut dengan menggunakan mekanisme pertahanan diri sebagaimana yang dilakukan manusia pada umumnya. Frankie berhasil lepas dari keemasannya diusia tiga belas tahun setelah dia diterima menjadi anggota atau bagian dari lingkungannya.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature is the invention of human thoughts, as a reflection of their feeling, experiences and dream about life, which is then poured out into the medium of language. There are many kinds of literary works, one of them is novel. Novel is a literary work that can reflect a kind of universal problem of truth and moral values as well as their impact towards human life (Hudson, 1944:29). Novel can also show the reader about the human life, it always describes complex story that make the novel interesting to be read.

The writer chooses The Member of the Wedding to be analyzed as one Carson McCullers works. Carson McCullers is one of the America's superlative writers who expose the terrible condition which being faced by the main character. McCullers is a serious artist who is fascinated with the evil and presents of something dreadful at the center of our universe (Brook and Lewis, 2545). In addition, Brook and Lewis also say that Mrs. McCullers has the strong impression of her own experiences. Obviously her own experience becomes major inspiration on her works.

There are some of her works such as The Heart is a Lonely Hunter (1940), The Member of the Wedding (1946), The Ballad of the Sad Cafe (1951), and Clock without Hands (1967). Generally, the main characters in Carson McCullers' fiction are abnormal, and most of them are so fantastic. In this

research her third novel entitled The Member of the Wedding would be the subject to be analyzed. Since, as Brook says that, "The Member of the Wedding is her most popular novel. It was published in 1946. That story got a great success at that time, winning the Donadlson award, The New York Critics Circle award, and Winning Broadway Play" (1973: 2545). The psychology problem as the main issue of the novel becomes the specific object to be analyzed, especially toward the main character.

The Member of the Wedding is a psychological novel. The writer is interested in analyzing the psychological aspects because the writer sees that many problems emerge from people's psychology. Here, the writer will explain what type of human being sees from their psychology. Then, discussion will touch on id, ego and superego that faced by the main characters. From id, ego and superego, the writer can see the cases of human psychology, such as anxiety. The Member of the Wedding by Carson McCullers is a story reflecting the problems of Frankie as an adolescent who want to get rid of the anxiety. The writer sees the complicated problem of psychology that brings her into anxiety.

Anxiety is a common experience. Most human beings feel anxious when they feel threatened, feel overwhelmed with unpleasant situations to confront with upcoming condition (Boeree, 2008: 38). However, when the anxiety is getting chronic or intense, it is considered as a serious psychological problem. The form of anxiety is different from each other because it is influenced by different factors. One does not suffer from anxiety because of the development of defense mechanism which copes with anxiety. In Frankie's case, it is not easy to effort and

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Carson McCullers' The Member of the Wedding is the novel which portrays psychological conflict that happen in the main characters. Carson describes her character as a woman who encounters anxiety which is caused by her pain feeling. After the writer analyzes the novel, the writer gets some conclusions that The Member of the Wedding exposes the psychological aspects of a young girl named Frankie Addams, who is anxious. It changes her attitude from nice girl to be outlandish girl.

There are some cases that show Frankie's anxieties firstly, Frankie is anxious towards the darkness and loneliness. The factor causing Frankie's anxiety toward the darkness, it occurs because when Frankie was younger she thinking and belief in ghosts and she does not have a complete family since she was born. In fact, family's support is really needed in the teenager time, especially from her mother and to cope the anxieties itself Frankie uses Repression, Rationalization as ego defense mechanisms. The secondly, Frankie is anxious towards the loneliness, it happen because she cannot be accepted as member of clubhouse, the moving of her best friends to Florida and the last is her brother has married, Frankie's brother going be married which makes Frankie separates from his brother and lose her brother's love forever. Basically, as teenager really needs love from people around her, especially from her family and to cope her anxieties;

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