THE PERSONALITY OF “BORNO” IN KAU, AKU, DAN SEPUCK ANGPAU MERAH NOVEL WRITTEN BY TERE LIYE: PSYCHOANALYSIS STUDY

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Received: 29-02-2021 Accepted: 20-04-2021 Published: 15-06-2021

Abstract: This research aimed to determine the psychological description of the main character, Borno, reviewed from Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalysis. The subject was the novel of Kau, Aku, dan Sepucuk Angpau Merah written by Tere Liye. The applied research methodology was descriptive qualitative. The data of this research consisted of words, phrases, sentences, and discourse related to the main character's personality structures in the novel. The data collection techniques were reading, noting, and analyzing the documents with literature psychological analysis of Sigmund Freud. The novel tells the love story of Borno and Mei due to a pincher, Sepit. At that time, Mei was doing field practice in Pontianak. She crossed the Kapuas river. Borno saw her and fell in love with her, the Chinese-breed girl. The red packet, angpau merah, was left on a pincher made Borno wanted to return it. Borno's struggles to find out her name, Mei, was successful. From the analyzed data, the personality ego frequently appeared in Borno. It was due to his considerations while being advised by the old man. The conflict of id and ego made an internal conflict for Borno. Their love story was begun from the boat. At that time, Mei was doing an internship in Pontianak. She crossed the Kapuas river by boat. Borno saw it then he fell in love with the Indo-Chinese breed girl. The red packet, angpau merah, was left on a pincher made Borno wanted to return it. Borno always kept an eye on Mei. He even remembered what time Mei went to teach and always kept trying to ensure his boat be always in the thirteenth line. It was the line in which Mei would be on board every morning.

Keywords: psychoanalysis; character's personality; Sigmund Freud’s theory

INTRODUCTION
Literature work is an actual, imaginative, and creative realization of a writer with different processes from one to another. The differences consist of several methods, the creative progress appearance, and the expression models of the writer until the applied language modes. Mursalim (2019) found four main approaches in literature works. They were mimetic, expressive, pragmatic, and objective. Those approaches have developed into various approaches. They are such as structural, semiotic, sociological literature, receptive literature, psychological literature, and moral approaches. Literature psychology is applied to analyze literary works correlated to the characters’ personalities. It is actually a combination between psychology and literature based on Sigmund Freud (El Hafiz & Himawan, 2020). The novel is a literature work with complex problems and allows the characters to experience various personality
problems. This matter is known as psychological problem or conflict (Rahmawati, 2017). Psychological literature is influenced by several facts. First, it is a creation of the personal and cognitive processes of a writer in the subconscious stage. Then, it is expressed in the conscious stage (Endraswara, 2003). Second, psychological literature review refers to psychological reflection review of main characters to make readers experiencing the psychological problem story. It sometimes makes the readers involved in the story.

The problems presented in novels might vary. Studies by Maulana (2014), Mujihadi (2016), Pratami, Djohan, & Purwaningsih, (2016), and Sistiana (2016) showed that the problems could be mental torment, mental conflict, psychosexual problem, social-interaction, romance dilemma, etc. The novel, *Kau, Aku, dan Sepucuk Angpau Merah*, written by Tere Liye also had psychological problems experienced by the main characters. Although the novel brings a love story, Tere Liye could make it interesting with the presented problems. The problems could attract the psychological sides due to lots of conflicts experienced by the main characters. They were such as problems dealing with the romance or romantic element, the lifestyle, and the community values (Basid, Jannah, & Hamzah, 2018; Kholijah, Priyadi, & Sanulita, 2015; Yulianto, 2019).

Some studies with psychological literature had been done for examples Aras (2015) and Khotimah, Masulah, & Mayasari (2017). They applied psychological literature analysis approach on novel but they did not investigate from *id*, *ego*, and *superego*. On the other hand, studies about the novel, *Aku, Kau, dan Sepucuk Angpau Merah*, were done by Basid et al. (2018), Kholijah et al. (2015), and Yulianto (2019). However, they did not investigate the novel based on psychological literature analysis.

Human characters are varied as expressed in the literature work. The novel written by Tere Liye was published by PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama, the twenty-fourth print, in February 2020. It consisted of thirty-seven chapters and 507 pages. The simple love story between Borno and Mei becomes an amazing love story for the current era. The novel tells a life of a young man living near Kapuas river, Pontianak, Western Borneo, named Borno. He fell in love with an Indo-Chinese girl, named Mei. The love story was begun with a Sept, a boat. Mei who was doing field practice in Pontianak, crossing the Kapuas river with a boat. Borno saw him and fell in love. A red packet was left on the boat. It made Borno eager to return the packet and at that time he always kept an eye on Mei. He even remembered what time Mei went to teach. He even knew that the thirteenth line was the right queue for Mei to be on board every morning.

The love story theme always embellishes the community life. This argument is also supported by Al-Haj (2015). He found that the attitude of the character in a novel that kept on loving in the beloved one could attract readers. In the current novel, *Kau, Aku, dan Sepucuk Angpau Merah*, is also entailed with conflicts of love stories that make the writers interested to create literary works. Character psychology brings uniqueness to each literature work (Santos, Santos, & Silva, 2018). Thus, a literature work will be different not only from the story but also from the characters’ psychology. The characters in a literature work become the important parts in psychological approached studies (Clare, 2019; Mete, 2017; Hans, 2018; Xinyin, 2019). It is since literature works are frequently used as research studies about the psychological approach. The inner conflict experienced by Borno could be reviewed with Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalysis (2000). Psychoanalysis is a specific term of psychological literature study (Kasimbara, 2020). According to Freud, there are *id*, *ego*, and *superego* in humans. They cause humans to always have a personal conflict, anxiety, worry, restlessness, stress, etc. However, if they do not work equally, an abnormal character will appear (Kasimbara, 2020).

Psychological science is used as a literature work review, especially to examine the characters. *Psyche*, according to Jung in Wu & Wei (2020), it is defined as the totality of all conscious and subconscious events. Thus, human personalities consist of consciousness and subconsciousness (Mededović, 2018). Both of the states are compensatory connected. The functions of those states are (1) to adjust the external world (the consciousness) and (2) to adjust the internal world (subconsciousness). The border of both states is dynamic. It means the area of both states can be larger or narrower.

The psychological literature should also prioritize the literature instead of the psychology. This study can be done in two manners. They are by
using the psychological theory understanding and analysis on a certain literature work or determining the literature work as the object and determining the relevant psychological theories. Psychological literature in this discussion refers to the applied research methods and the literature work deployment as a dynamic event. Literature work determines the theory and it is not the theory that determines the literature work (Ratna, 2013).

METHOD
The applied method was the descriptive qualitative method (Haradhan, 2018). The collected data were words, phrases, sentences, and dialogues that described the main character's personality structures in the novel. The researcher in this research had roles as the key instrument. The researcher had the main role to collect the data by reading, classifying, and interpreting the data. The research data consisted of paragraph, sentence, and quotation explanations of the novel written by Tere Liye. They were in the form of dialogs among the characters, the explanations of the characters, and the actions in the novel. The applied instruments used the personality table of Sigmund Freud's theory in the form of id, ego, and superego. They were used to label the research focus, classification data based on the research focus, and data corpus table to determine the analyzed object codes.

The procedures of collecting the data consisted of six stages. They were (1) selecting the novel, (2) reading and understanding the novel, (3) labeling the personality structures of the main characters, (4) classifying the data, (5) providing codes, and (6) interpreting the findings. The data checking was done with the reference adequacy technique. Therefore, the researcher used Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis to analyze the main character, Borno, in the novel.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The main character's personality in a literature work is always interested to review. One of them is by reviewing the personality with a psychological approach. Psychology and literature are two different matters. However, they are connected due to the reviewed object. In this research, it was the personality. The characters in literature work are imaginative. However, they have psychological aspects as humans in the real world. This part is explained in this research. It is about the main character, Borno, in Kau, Aku, dan Sepucuk Angpau Merah novel, reviewed with Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis.

The psychological description of Borno
The analysis of the psychological aspect of the character, Borno, in the novel was based on human personality. It consisted of id, ego, and superego. Those matters cannot be separated from a human. The finding below was in line with Aji (2019).

Borno, a young man of Kapuas river, Pontianak, Western Borneo had a story since he was 12 years old. At that time, the littler Borno had to face a desperate fate. His father passed away but at the moment before it happened, his father agreed to donate his heart for another patient. Borno was very sad, not only because of his father's death but questions. He was wondering how his father passed away whether it was due to the surgery or the accident. Borno grew up and became a good personality character as his father was. After graduated from Senior High School, Borno tried to get a job, propose a job, and change jobs. Borno was often insulted by his neighbors and the surrounding people of Kapuas. One day, he decided to work at a ferry dock. His performance made his relative, Bang Togar, the chief of the speed boat community or sepit angry. Then, as the result, he was prohibited to cross the river on the boat. Borno decided to quit the job and stay away from his relatives and other people. He started to learn to drive the boat. Although it was tough for him, due to the suggestions of his mother and the old man, he kept doing it.

His love story was begun from the boat. At that time, Mei was doing an internship in Pontianak. She crossed the Kapuas river by boat. Borno saw it then he fell in love with the Indo-Chinese breed girl. The red packet left on the boat made Borno had eager to return it. Although in the end he was disappointed since the packet, containing money, was shared to celebrate the Chinese new year. It was a temporal disappointment because Mei called Borno's name after sharing the packet. Then, on that day, Borno always kept an eye on Mei. He even remembered what time Mei went to tea and always kept trying to ensure his boat be always in the thirteenth line. It was the line in which Mei would be on board every morning.

Borno chose to be loyal to Mei although Mei had several times left him without clear reasons.
However, Borno believed that he would meet her again no matter what. Finally, the secret was revealed. Mei’s mother was a doctor. She was responsible for Bornos’ father’s death. She was the one who transplanted his father’s heart when there was a slight hope to live for his father. However, since she was blinded by carrier and position at that time, in which there had not been anyone who could transplant the heart, she was determined to do it. She was just realized once she completed the operation. She saw a young man and a woman hugging each other and cried due to losing someone’s important in his family. That was the reason why Mei left suddenly without clear reasons and why she knew Borno’s name first. It was why although Mei loved Borno but she chose to let him go since she knew there would be a scar opened.

**Data 12**


“I will always love you, Mei. Even after I read the letters in the red packet a thousand times and knew the painful truth. It cannot change anything. Even if this means security kicks me out and insults me. It will never change my feeling. I will be always loving you, Mei. Oh dear, if you do not believe in me, a young man with the pure heart in Kapuan, who else will you believe?” (Liye, 2012, p.507)

**Data 13**

Malam itulah untuk pertama kalinya aku menyadari, Mei datang dari keluarga yang amat berbeda denganku. Taksir membawa kami menuju pusat kota, melewati jalan protokol Surabaya, lantas masuk ke pintu gerbang besar, ke halaman dengan luas seperempat lapangan bola. Aku yang sejak tadi lebih banyak diam, lebih banyak salah tingkah, beracak sepatuh-dua patah, menatap rumah besar tujuan kami itu dengan sebuah kesadaran baru. (Liye, 2012, p.222)

That night, for the first time I realized. Mei came from a different family than me. The cap brought me to the central city, passing the highway of Surabaya. We were brought through the large gate and yard, a fourth of the football field large. I was only keeping silent and turned into feeling awkward. I spoke once or twice, starring at the huge house, the objective of our journey with a new consciousness.” (Liye, 2012, p. 222)

The most dominant personality elements of Borno

The psychoanalysis theory of Sigmund Freud consists of Id, Ego, and Superego. (1) **Id** refers to the biological aspect. It is the most basic personality system under consciousness. (2) **Ego** refers to the psychological aspect. It is the personality system acting as an individual’s direction toward an object of reality and promoting the function based on reality. (3) **Superego** refers to the sociological aspect. It consists of values and regulations that are evaluative (dealing with good or bad things). The personality analysis of Borno dominated could be seen on the Figure 1.

![Figure 1. The analysis of dominant personality of Borno](image-url)
The main character of the novel is Borno. He struggled to know Mei’s name. His first meeting failed and Mei suddenly returned to Surabaya to finish her study. Borno was so crazy to contact each contact with Mei’s father’s name. He hoped the contacted number was the address of Mei. His struggle was also distracted by a beautiful Chinese-breed woman. She was also as beautiful as Mei and a doctor named Sarah. She was the daughter of his father-donated heart recipient. She was the childhood friend of Mei. A man’s loyalty could be seen from Borno. He remained loyal to Mei although Mei left him several times without clear reasons. However, Borno believed that he would meet her again no matter what. Finally, the secret was revealed. Mei’s mother was a doctor. She was the one who transplanted his father’s heart when there was a slight hope to live for his father. However, since she was blinded by carrier and position at that time, in which there had not been anyone who could transplant the heart, she was determined to do it. She was just realized once she completed the operation. She saw a young man and a woman hugging each other and cried due to losing someone’s important in his family. That was the reason why Mei left suddenly without clear reasons and why she knew Borno’s name first. It was why although Mei loved Borno but she chose to release him since she knew there would be a scar opened.

Borno’s personality as the main character from the Id aspect
The Id aspect dealt with the biological aspect and was the original system in personality. From this aspect, the other two aspects were developed. The aspects consisted of matters brought since an individual was born or the biological elements, such as the instincts. Id refers to psychics’ energy that has some principles, such as joy. Guidance in the id function is to avoid an individual from inconvenience and convenience. Borno experienced sadness since his father’s death. It was at his twelve years old. He was stung by jellyfish until it made him donating his heart to other people. The situation made him working as a speed boat driver. Here are the quotations:

Data 10
“Bapak belum mati! Dia bisa sadar kapan saja!” Aku loncat, beringas menahan ranjang bapak. (Liye, 2012, p.16)
“He is still alive!!!! He may regain his consciousness anytime” I jumped, holding my father’s bed. (Liye, 2012, p. 16)

Data 11
After graduating from SHS, I did not have anything, no skills, no opportunities, no network. I only had dreams. I was dreaming I could work and go to college. I have been graduated four years from SHS and it is all my dream. Thus, becoming a speed boat driver only brings limited income. On the other hand, our schoolmates are busy studying and busy with their future. Some of them want to be civil servants while others want to be entrepreneurs. Honestly, I am feeling restless. I am afraid I am always going to be a speed driver. I am afraid my life will be just like Jau, Jupri, and the others. They have become speed boat drivers since children. Togar is better. He ever went to Kapuas upstream. He had different young age. The old man became the speed boat driver as his hobby. I think he enjoyed it. He even went around the world for years although his life is just simple. What about me? I have not done anything great. (Liye, 2012, pp. 281-282)
menyenangkan terlepas dariul bang Togar dan kawan-kawan. Kenapa tiba-tiba sore ini dia datang dengan wajah lemah, bilang kalimat yang sangat tidak masuk akal?

“Kau hanya bergurau, kan?” aku menyalidik, tertawa kecil


“What? I cannot see you?” I tried to ensure what I heard. The workshop atmosphere felt so free.

“But why?” I trembling asked. Mei was only keeping silent and bowed her head.

I slammed my face. I really did not understand what she spoke. We were just dating yesterday. It was amazing, away from Togar and the others. Then, suddenly, this afternoon she came in with her long face and spoke nonsense?

“Are you just kidding?” I ensured it while smiling a little bit.

She looked at me and shook her head. She was tearing. It made me stop smiling and frozen still. (Liye, 2012, p.397).

**Borno’s personality as the main character based on the ego aspect**

The *ego* aspect refers to the psychological state due to the factual connection of an individual. The *id* is influenced by the environment to satisfy an individual. Then, the *ego* tries to connect the internal part of the individual (*id*) and the external part (*Superego*). The encouragement of *ego* to do what *id* expect could be achieved. The reality in the novel does not support the realization of the *id*. Here are the quotations:

**Data 6**


Day by day, I still did not have any idea to write. I just recklessly wrote them. I actually wanted to write something like “Mei, I like you” or “Mei, I miss you.” But I could not write it. It was so complicated and I did not make it more complicated. I had no idea how was my feeling for her. So far, my letters had not been replied to by her. (Liye, 2012, pp.456-457)

**Data 7**


“I think we should not meet anymore.” (Liye, 2012, p.398).

**Data 8**


**Data 9**


I cannot argue anymore. It is the third day Mei does not go on board. I am actually nervous just like three days ago. I expect Mei will come to the dock. Yesterday, when I asked the student at that school, the one who went on my boat, the answer was just the same. “Madam Mei is still teaching as usual.” The answer took half of my spirit. I have followed Bang Togar's suggestion. I always think positively but it does not help. I am feeling nervous waiting in this thirteenth line. I am thinking about what I should say when I meet her, what question I should express but it was just in vain. She did not arrive at the dock. (Liye, 2012, pp.336-337)

**Borno’s personality as the main character based on the superego aspect**

The superego aspect refers to the personal psychological aspect. It consists of traditional values and community images. *Superego* is considered a personal moral aspect. It is to determine whether something is correct or not, suitable or not, moral or immoral as applied in a community. The superego deals with the subconsciousness and is a moral ethic to determine the correct one. The superego in the novel consists of etiquette, morals, and custom. Borno was...
Described as a high-curiosity character. It could be seen from this excerpt.

**Data 1**

“Usia enam tahun, aku suka memikirkan hal-hal aneh. Salah satunya aku pernah sibuk memikirkan: Jika kita buang air besar di hulu Kapuas, kira-kira butuh berapa hari kotoran itu akan tiba di muara sungai, melintas di depan rumah papan kami?“ Kau ada-ada saja, Borno. Urusan kotoran saja kaulamunkan.” Bapak bukannya menjawab, malah tergelak, sibuk membereskan jaring.


“When I was six years old, I was thinking something strange. One of them was if I defecated the upstream of Kapuas, how long would it take to reach the estuary. When would it pass our house? “You were kidding. Did you reality think about that?” After hearing that one, my father did not answer me. He was laying down and tidied up the net. I took them out. “Borno, do not ask something strange! Just looking at you doing that one has made me confused.” My mom stared at me. Her hands were still selecting the fish caught last night. She asked me to deliver the order.” (Liye, 2012, p.7).

**Data 2**


“...I was walking straight, passing the alleys along Kapuas. The small houses stand near the bank of the river. Many children were taking a bath there. Many women washed with the dirty water.” (Liye, 2012, p.18).

**Data 3**


“....Thus, many citizens of Pontianak should take the long route to cross by taking the bus, cap, or wagon.” (Tere Liye, 2012, p.34).

“I starred at a house in front of me. Oh dear, did I miss the address? How big it is! The gate was not locked. I moved it and got inside. I heard the automatic valve’s noise.” (Liye, 2012, p.148).

**Data 4**

“Aku berjanji akan selalu mencintai kau, Mei. Bahkan walau aku telah membaca surat dalam angkau merah itu ribuan kali, tahu masa lalu yang menyakitkan, itu tidak akan mengubah apapun. Bahkan walau saatpam galak rumah ini mengusirku, menginuki, itu juga tidak akan mengubah perasaanku. Aku akan selalu mencintai kau, Mei. Astaga, Mei, jika kau tidak percaya janjiku, bujang dengan hati paling lurus sepanjang tepian Kapuas, maka siapa lagi yang bisa kau percaya?” (Liye, p.507)

“I will always love you, Mei. Even after I read the letters in the red packet a thousand times and knew the painful truth. It cannot change anything. Even if this means security kicks me out and insults me. It will never change my feeling. I will be always loving you, Mei. Oh dear, if you do not believe in me, a young man with the pure heart in Kapuan, who else will you believe?” (Liye, p.507)

**Data 5**


That night, for the first time I realized. Mei came from a different family than me. The cap brought me to the central city, passing the highway of Surabaya. We were brought through the large gate and yard, a fourth of the football field large. I was only keeping silent and turned into feeling awkward. I spoke once or twice, staring at the huge house, the objective of our journey with a new consciousness. (Liye, 2012, p.222)
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Chinese breed girl. The red packet, angpau merah, was left on a pincher made Borno wanted to return it. Borno always kept an eye on Mei. He even remembered what time Mei went to teach and always kept trying to ensure his boat be always in the thirteenth line. It was the line in which Mei would be on board every morning.

CONCLUSION
After analyzing the personality based on Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalysis, it could be concluded that, with the psychoanalysis theory developed by Sigmund Freud, the personality structure is divided into the id, ego, and superego. From the analyzed data, it could be seen that Borno was the only young man with a pure heart in Kapuas. He even took the job as the speed boat driver that was prohibited by his father (superego). However, on the other hand, Borno’s was crazy to contact each address with Mei’s father name. He expected one of them was the address of Mei. He did so because Borno had a little clue about Mei’s presence in the city (id). Borno could not accept the reality that Mei left him when the love blossomed. Borno could not forget her even he tried. The figure of Mei always appeared in his heart (ego). The Superego of the main character could be found when he found out the content of the red packets. Finally, the secret was revealed. Mei’s mother was a doctor. She was responsible for Borons’ father’s death. She was the one who transplanted his father’s heart when there was a slight hope to live for his father. However, since she was blinded by carrier and position at that time, in which there had not been anyone who could transplant the heart, she was determined to do it. She was just realized once she completed the operation. She saw a young man and a woman hugging each other and cried due to losing someone’s important in his family. That was what made Mei left without any clear reasons. It was also why Mei figured the Borno's name first. Mei loved Borno but she chose to leave her because she knew there would be a scar opened.

Borno has a complex character. The id, ego, and superego appeared together. The appeared id was when Borno got angry, worry, and confused. The appeared ego was shown when Borno kept his loyalty, effort to not give up, anxiety, and compassion. The superego personality was shown by the attention, loyalty, optimism, purity, intelligence, effort, autonomy, curiosity, and politeness of the character.

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