

**THE CHARACTER OF LOUISA CLARK'S INNER CONFLICT REFLECTED IN  
JOJO MOYES'S *ME BEFORE YOU* (2012): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Requirements for Getting Bachelor  
Degree of Education in English Department**

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**2019**

**APPROVAL**

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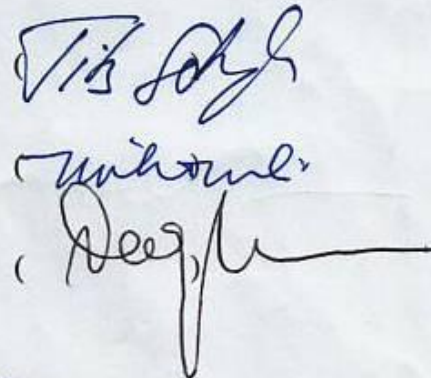
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# THE CHARACTER OF LOUISA CLARK'S INNER CONFLICT REFLECTED IN JOJO MOYES'S *ME BEFORE YOU* (2012): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

## Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan: (1) wujud konflik batin pada tokoh Louisa Clark dalam novel *me before you* karya Jojo Moyes; (2) faktor yang melatarbelakangi konflik batin tokoh Louisa dalam novel *me before you* dan (3) bentuk penyelesaian konflik batin dalam novel *me before you*. Sumber data untuk penelitian ini adalah novel *Me Before You* karya Jojo Moyes dengan jumlah halaman 264. Teknik pengumpulan data dengan membaca dan mencatat, sedangkan analisis data dilakukan dengan teknik *heuristic-hermeneutic*. Keabsahan data diambil dari validitas semantik serta realibilitas intrarater dan reliabilitas interrater. Hasil penelitian ini sebagai berikut. Wujud konflik batin tokoh Louisa Clark meliputi pilihan tidak sesuai keinginan, bimbang dalam permasalahan, dan yang terakhir harapan tidak sesuai dengan kenyataan. Dari penelitian tersebut menunjukkan bahwa permasalahan yang di alami tokoh Louisa dalam novel *me before you* di dominasi adanya Id daripada ego. Dominasi id daripada ego yang menyebabkan Louisa mengalami konflik batin, dan wujud konflik batin yang paling dominan pada Louisa terdapat pada kebimbangan dalam menghadapi permasalahan. (2) faktor yang melatarbelakangi konflik batin tokoh Louisa Clark dalam novel *Me Before You* meliputi faktor internal dan faktor eksternal. Di dalam faktor internal meliputi membenci diri sendiri, kecemasan akan masa depan dan iri dengan kehidupan adiknya Treana. Faktor eksternal meliputi faktor lingkungan yang kurang mendukung, krisis simpati dari Nyonya Traynor dan pengkhianatan orang terdekat. Dari dua faktor tersebut yang paling berpengaruh sebagai penyebab munculnya konflik batin Louisa adalah faktor eksternal, (3) bentuk penyelesaian konflik batin yang dialami Louisa Clark dalam novel *Me Before You* yang meliputi sublimasi, represi, dan rasionalisasi. Adapun bentuk penyelesaian yang paling sering dilakukan oleh Louisa adalah bentuk represi

**Kata kunci** : konflik batin , tokoh , novel , psikoanalitik

## Abstract

This study aims to describe: (1) a form of inner conflict in the character Louisa Clark in the novel *me before you* by Jojo Moyes; (2) the factors underlying the inner conflict of Louisa's character in the novel *me before you* and (3) the form of resolving inner conflicts in my novel *before you*. The data source for this research is the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes with page number 264. The technique of collecting data is by reading and taking notes, while data analysis is done by *heuristic-hermeneutic* techniques. The validity of the data is taken from semantic validity and intrarater reliability and interrater reliability. The results of this study are as follows. The manifestation of the inner conflict of Louisa Clark's character includes the choice not as desired, hesitation in the problem, and finally the hope is not in accordance with reality. From the research shows that the problems experienced by Louisa's character in the novel *me before you* are dominated by the existence of Id rather than the ego. The dominance of the id rather than the ego which caused Louisa to experience inner conflict, and the form of inner conflict that was most dominant in Louisa was in the hesitation in facing problems. (2) factors underlying the inner conflict of Louisa Clark's character in the novel *Me Before You* include internal factors and external factors. Internal factors include self-hatred, anxiety about the future and envy of the life of his sister Treana. External factors include less supportive environmental factors, sympathy from Mrs. Traynor and betrayal of the closest person. Of the two factors that were the most influential as the cause of the emergence of inner conflict

Louisa was an external factor, (3) the form of resolution of inner conflicts experienced by Louisa Clark in the novel *Me Before You* which includes sublimation, repression, and rationalization. The settlement form most often done by Louisa is a form of repression

**Keywords:** inner conflict, character, novel, psychoanalytic

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The major issue of this research is The Character of Louisa Clark's inner conflict reflected in Jojo Moyes's *Me Before You* (2012). Conflict is an active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles (Cambridge Dictionary). Definition of inner is something related to the inside, the spirit or private things (Your Dictionary). From the definition above, it can be concluded that problems that arise from within a person. Jojo Moyes is written entitled *me before you* which full of drama. This novel has been observed by other researchers with different focus. The researcher found four researchers who discussed *Me Before You* as a material object. The first research is Suicide of Will Traynor which discussed *me before your* novel by Jojo Moyes conducted by Nia Wahyuningsih, the second research is Potrayal of Desperation Reflected in Jojo Moyes' *me before you* novel conducted by Alvian Dhani Viny, the third research is The Existence of Will Traynor to Define his life in *me before you* conducted by Adibah, and the last researcher is Life Meaninglessness Of Will Traynors In Jojo Moyes *Me Before You* conducted by Saribu Hantrini.

Nia wahyuningsih conducted research to *me before you* novel with the aim to know about the problem that made Will make a suicide. The objective of this study is to analyze the novel using sociological approach. The result of this research is Traynor had a personal accident after repairing Quadriplegia paralysis due to a motorcycle accident. The another researcher who observed this work is Alvian Dhani Viny. Alvian Dhani Viny focused to describe the characteristics of despair through Existentialism. The result of this study is there are five indicators of despair that lose interest in daily activities, defeat themselves, become more emotional, lose self-identity, and lack productivity. The other researcher is Adibah. Adibah focused on describes an effort of Will Traynor to reject determination in his life through his choice. The result of this study shows that Will's existence is expressed by his life choices and responsibilities. The last researcher is Saribu Hantrini. The research proves that the life meaninglessness of Will Traynor in Jojo Moyes' *Me Before You* is caused by a tragic experiences he faces as the cause of an accident.

Based on the previous study, it is known that there is no researcher who discussed *me before you* with the issue the character of Louisa. Then, the researcher discusses the research

with this issue. The researcher has two main reasons discusses this research. The first is because the researcher learns that inner conflict cannot solve by the general people. The inner conflict is not a simple case. It is usually revealed by the psychologist. The second reason is that the inner conflict reflected in this novel. The researcher wants to analyze the inner conflict of Louisa and the messages from the writer that wants to deliver to the reader.

The researcher uses a psychoanalytic approach to conduct this research. psychoanalysis is used to show a method of research on psychological processes that were previously barely accessible to scientific research(*Sigmund Freud*) . personality is seen as a structure consisting of three elements or systems, namely id, ego, and superego (Supratik, 1993: 32). According to Freud, the id is the source of all psychic energy, so the main component of personality. According to Koeswara (1991: 33-34), ego is a personality system that acts as an individual influence on objects from reality, and performs its functions based on the principle of reality. according to Bertens (2006: 33-34), the superego is formed through internalization , meaning that prohibitions or orders originating from outside are processed in such a way that they finally emanate from within.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

This research use descriptive qualitative approach. According to Bodgan and Taylor qualitative research is a procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from people who can be observed and this approach is directed towards the background and the individual as a whole. This research uses Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic approach. The object of this research is the novel *Me Before You* novel by Jojo Moyes. This novel was published on January 5, 2012. The Primary data source is me before you novel by Jojo Moyes. This novel was published on January 5, 2012 in the UK. The Secondary Data Source are online, thesis, research paper that related with this research. The researcher used the note- taking technique when collecting the data. Note taking means a complex activity that requires comprehension and selection of information and written production process (Piolat, Olive & Kellogg, 2004). There are reading me before you novel repeatedly then continue to determine the title, Conducting a literature review of previous research, Collecting data in accordance with Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, Recording data that focuses on problems in the novel, Describing the data obtained and Classifying the data into several parts. The researcher used three steps of technique of analyzing in the data from Janice Mcdrury (1999) as follow reading / study data, mark key words and ideas in the data, learning the key words, trying to find themes that come from the

data, writing down the 'model' found, coding that has been done. The researcher used data validity in analyzed data from observing the data in the form of units words, phrases, sentences, dialogues, monologues, author descriptions and interactions between characters. The activity aims to observe how far, data about the officers and conflicts experienced by the main character are interpreted accordingly with the context. Endraswara (2004: 165) states that reliability is always based on perseverance of observation and recording. Careful reading will affect the stability of data search.

### **3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

#### **3.1 Inner conflicts experienced By Louisa**

##### 3.1.1 Undesired choice

The inner conflict Lou experienced began when she lost her job. The *id* for Louisa's figure in the above quote is shown by Louisa's desire to continue working at The Buttered Bun. But the desire to work at The Buttered Bun contradicts the *Superego* shown by Louisa's character, she must accept if the owner of the buttered bun Frank, he must return to Australia so he must close the cafe where Louisa works. Then, the gap led to the emergence of inner conflict Louisa figure where the *superego* in Louisa needed work based on the reality shown through Frank's decision to follow Frank's rules even though this was not in accordance with his wishes. Louisa's inner conflict finally took the decision to keep following Frank's rules, illustrating that Lou's soul was depressed. In addition, in other inner conflicts caused by the conflict between choices not in accordance with the wishes in the novel described by Louisa through a statement.

##### 3.1.2 Hesitation in facing the problems

One form of inner conflict Louisa experienced was when she felt hesitant with feelings of disappointment at Traynor's mistress. The feeling arose when Mrs. Traynor did not tell from the start that Will would end his life after six months. However, on the other hand Louisa also felt uneasy and there was a desire from Lou to make Will change the suicide plan. The main character's hesitation continues when she is faced with two equally strong choices. Between Louisa had to choose with Patrick on vacation in Spain or take Will to go to the coast of California. The conflict between *Id* and *Ego* caused inner conflict within Louisa because she had to choose between two very difficult choices, namely between disappointment and protection. Disappointment from *Id* was hindered by the rules set by the *superego* that Louisa had to approve the one in the work contract, which for six months she had to work there. The



ego who plays the main role in the personality decides to keep trying to change Will's suicide plan and put aside her disappointment because she was lied to by Traynor's mistress.

### 3.1.3 The expectation is different from the reality

Hope did not match Louisa's reality when Will finally continued his plan to end his life. The conflict between Id and superego creates a conflict caused by the Ego. The ID addressed in the above quote is Louisa expects Will to change his mind and not continue his plan to end his life. As a result, Id wishes to make a plan so that Will does not commit suicide. this arises anger and disappointment towards Will. Then the Superego arises and mediates with the assumption that by suicide Will will not feel sitting in a wheelchair, there is no pneumonia and especially will not feel pain anymore.

## **3.2 The causal factors behind the inner conflict of the character Louisa**

### 3.2.1 Internal factors

Internal factors that are the cause of inner conflict in Louisa is the feeling of disappointment with herself. Self-disappointment arises from Lou's powerlessness, which does not have the expertise to meet the economic needs of her family. The cause of Louisa's inner conflict in the novel *Me Before you* was also motivated by anxieties about her condition. Anxiety is an ego function to warn individuals about the possibility of a danger coming so that an adaptive reaction can be prepared accordingly. The anxiety felt by Louisa in the quote was because Lou lost her job, requiring Lou to try to find another job without having special skills. In this case young Louisa has a strong determination without knowing what consequences she will face.

### 3.2.2 External factors

The external factor that caused inner conflict to Louisa was his family's financial crisis. In my novel *before you* are told that Louisa is not from a family of rich people. Even life depends only on Louisa's income. Especially after Louisa said that she had just lost her job to make her own inner conflict. Factors causing the inner conflict to Louisa were also motivated by feelings of disappointment at Louisa to Will. Louisa describes the situation of her family which only relies on Louisa's salary. That made an inner conflict for Louisa because she not only supported herself but also her family.

### **3.3 The resolve inner conflict of the character Louisa**

#### **3.3.1 Sublimation**

Louisa's form of resolution of inner conflict with sublimation occurred when she was under pressure from her family. Louisa's lack of expertise made it difficult for her to get a job. The form of settlement of the sublimation inner conflict carried out by Louisa over feelings of anger and disappointment at Traynor's mistress who he considered had lied to Louisa by not telling from the beginning that he worked for 6 months to accompany Will until he would commit suicide. Louisa's form of transfer aside from her feeling of being disappointed because she was lied was shown through Louisa's behavior which would still protect Will so that Will would change his plans to end his life.

#### **3.3.2 Repression**

Louisa's unilateral decision to plan a vacation with Will was a beautiful place hit by extraordinary anxiety. The only reason for the anxiety Lou felt was there was no hope for him to be able to vacation with Patrick if she had to take a vacation with Will. The decision taken by Louisa proved that he did various ways so that she could make Will change his plans to end his life including repression. Freud's repression is the most powerful and broad ego defense mechanism. The task of repression is to push out id impulses that are not accepted, from the conscious and back to the subconscious.

#### **3.3.3 Rationalization**

Louisa's disappointment over the failure to protect Will enters the first goal of rationalization. Will's suicide plan made Louisa feel uneasy and always overwhelmed by anxiety. Louisa's anxiety if Will would end her life made her take the initiative to protect her so that Will would change her mind. Louisa's desire to keep protecting Will was unsuccessful. This is because Will continues his suicide plan.

### **3.4 Discussion**

The researcher found inner conflict after analyzing the novel *me before you* using psychoanalytic from Sigmund Freud. Researchers find inner conflict consists of choices not in accordance with the wishes, hesitant in dealing with problems, expectations do not match reality.

The researcher found inner conflict after analyzing the novel *me before you* using psychoanalytic from Sigmund Freud. Researchers find inner conflict consists of choices not in accordance with the wishes, hesitant in dealing with problems, expectations do not match reality.

First, the researchers found a form of inner conflict Louisa experienced in the form of choices not as desired. This is shown when Louisa lost her job. Not only lost his job, Louisa also became the backbone of her family, remembering that Lou's father would soon be fired from her job. Lou's anxiety can also be seen from the many inner conflicts he experienced. Louisa who wants freedom, but she is faced with a job that is not in accordance with her, namely caring for someone who has Quadriplegics. In addition, researchers found inner conflict in the form of hesitation in dealing with problems. This was shown when Louisa chose between having to go with her boyfriend Patrick or take a vacation with Will Traynor. This hesitation made Louisa experience an inner conflict because she considered both of them as important in her life. Furthermore, hope is not in accordance with reality. Hope does not match Louisa's reality when Will continues his plan to end his life. With this, Louisa's plan to make Will change her plan had failed. Because after Will and Louisa's vacation, Will will be taken to a clinic in Switzerland and will end his life there.

Second, there are two factors that cause inner conflict, namely internal and external factors. The internal factors in novel me before you come from within Louisa, including envy of the life of her sister, Katrina, self-hatred, and worry about the future. The external factors experienced by Louisa came from her family, and other people. External factors from her family are manifested in the variant of the middle to lower family economy. From other people it was manifested in a variant of the sympathy crisis of Mrs. Traynor and disappointed with Will. The three forms of resolving inner conflict experienced by Louisa using a form of settlement which includes sublimation, manifested in disappointed variants of Mrs. Traynor and venturing it by stopping work, repression or emphasis manifested in variants trying to protect Will, projections manifest in variants deciding to vacation with Will and refusing to go with Patrick, and the rationalization manifested in the variant accepted Will's decision while continuing to end his life.

According to the data and analysis above, the author's attention about important issues in inner conflict includes choices not as desired, hesitating in facing problems and expectations not as desired. there are two kinds of factors that cause inner conflict, namely internal and external factors, while the way to resolve inner conflicts uses sublimation, projection and rationalization variants.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

After observing and discussing the results of the research, the following conclusions are obtained.

First, Louisa's form of inner conflict includes the conflict between choices not in accordance with desires, doubts in facing problems, and expectations not in accordance with reality. The results of the study show that overall the problems experienced by Louisa were dominated by the Id rather than the Ego. The dominance of Id rather than Ego is what caused Louisa to experience conflict. While the most dominant form of inner conflict in Louisa is found in the variance of doubt in dealing with problems.

Second, the factors behind the emergence of inner conflict with Louisa in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes are divided into two, namely internal factors and external factors. The internal factors in novel *Me Before You* come from within Louisa, including envy of the life of her sister, Katrina, self-hatred, and worry about the future. The external factors experienced by Louisa came from her family, and other people. External factors from his family are manifested in the variant of the middle to lower family economy. From other people it was manifested in a variant of the sympathy crisis of Mrs. Traynor and disappointed with Will.

Based on research on the factors underlying the inner conflict with Louisa in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, it can be concluded that the factor behind the inner conflict with Louisa was external, especially Louisa's disappointment with Will.

Third, resolving the inner conflict in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes can be completed by Louisa. The resolution of Louisa's inner conflict included, sublimation, manifested in a disappointed variant of Mrs. Traynor and venturing it by stopping work, repression or emphasis manifested in variants trying to protect Will, projections manifested in the variant decided to vacation with Will and refuse to go with Patrick, and rationalized in the variant accepting the decision taken by Will while continuing to end his life.

Based on research on resolving Louisa's inner conflict in novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, it can be concluded that in solving problems Louisa often uses the resolution of inner conflicts in the form of projections, which Louisa makes the most when she has to choose with Will and continue her plans or vacation along with Patrick.

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