

ABSTRACT

This study purposes to analyze the struggle between Eros and Thanatos that caused by guilt feeling of Theodore “Theo” Decker story as the main character in *The Goldfinch* Novel and how Theo reaches his sense of responsibility. Using Freudian psychoanalysis, the analysis done in the explanation of each part of events that summon the energy of Thanatos and Eros. Death Instinct (Thanatos) that runs inside Theo’s unconscious mind try to conquer and drag Theo into destructive behavior. But, Theo’s life instinct (Eros) is much better in the context of empowering. Theo as a flawed and selfish character is given with a strong decency. This is why people around him give non-stop attention and love. Thus, this situation changes Theo’s way of think and brought him into Self – Forgiving. Self-forgiving is the key from Theo’s personality development to reach the sense of responsibility for any mistake he done in the past. The result of this study explains that surrenders to the fate and choose death as the shortcut to erase the problems are wrong. Theo become an example of how a human can forgive himself in spite of the matter of how big is a sin that a human could done.

Keywords: Anxiety, Death, Defense Mechanism, Eros, Guilt, Psychoanalysis, Responsible Traumatic Experiences, Thanatos