

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
JANIE'S CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND PSYCHOPATHIC
BEHAVIOUR IN LUCINDA BERRY'S NOVEL *THE PERFECT*
CHILD



By
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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA
SURABAYA

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iii

DECLARATION

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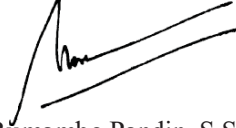
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*This thesis is dedicated to:
My family and friends that I value the most*

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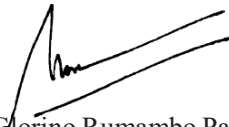


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Surakarta, 9 July 2022

Yusriya Salsabila Wibisono

“And once the storm is over, you won’t remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won’t even be sure, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won’t be the same person who walked in. That’s what this storm’s all about.”

- Haruki Murakami

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Inside Cover Page	i
Inside Title Page	ii
Degree Requirement	iii
Declaration Page	iv
Dedication Page	v
Approval Sheet	vi
Acknowledgements.....	vii
Epigraph	viii
Table of Contents.....	ix
Abstrak... ..	xii
Abstract	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1. Background of The Study.....	1
1.2. Statement of The Problems.....	5
1.3. Objectives of The Study.....	5
1.4. Significance of The Study.....	6
1.5. Definition of Key Terms.....	6
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW.....	8
2.1. Theoretical Framework... ..	8
2.1.1 Primitive Defense Mechanism	9
2.1.1.a Regression	9
2.1.1.b. Acting out.....	9
2.1.1.c. Dissociation.....	9
2.1.1.d. Projection	9
2.1.2 Less Primitive Defense Mechanism.....	10
2.1.2.a Repression.....	10
2.1.2.b Displacement.....	10
2.1.3. Pertinent Ideas	10
2.1.3.1 Literature and Psychology	10

2.1.3.2 Psychopathy	11
2.1.3.2.a Aggression Toward Animals	12
2.1.3.2.b Cheating Friends, Enemies, And Individuals Who Are Neutral.....	12
2.1.3.2.c Fearless With Consequences	12
2.1.3.2.d Bullying Other Children	12
2.1.3.2.e Serious Violations of Rules	12
2.2. Review of Related Studies	13
2.2.1 Types of Psychopaths	13
2.2.2 Trauma's Impact on Defense Mechanisms And Psychopathy.....	15
2.2.3 The Link Between Childhood Trauma And Psychopathy In Children....	16
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD	20
3.1 Research Approach.....	20
3.2 Data Sources	20
3.3 Scope and Limitation.....	21
3.4 Techniques of Data Collection	22
3.5 The Technique of Data Analysis	23
CHAPTER IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	24
4.1. Janie's Childhood Trauma	24
4.2. Causes of Janie's Trauma	24
4.2.1. Abuse.....	25
4.2.2. Neglect.....	27
4.3. The Effects of Janie's Trauma	28
4.4. Janie's Defense Mechanisms	33
4.4.1. Regression	33
4.4.2. Acting Out	34
4.4.3. Dissociation	36
4.4.4. Projection.....	36
4.4.5. Repression	39
4.4.6. Displacement	40

4.5. Janie's Psychopathic Behaviour.....	42
4.6. Janie's Personality Structure.....	47
4.6.1. Id.....	47
4.6.2. Ego	47
4.6.3. Superego	48
4.7. The Reflection of Janie's Psychopathic Behaviour in Real Life Condition	48
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION.....	52
5.1 Conclusion	52
5.2 Suggestion.....	53
REFERENCES.....	54
APPENDIX 1 The Novel Synopsis	59

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mencari relasi antara trauma pada masa kecil dan perilaku dari salah satu karakter, Janie, dalam novel *The Perfect Child* karya Lucinda Berry. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif dan teori psikoanalisis Sigmund Freud untuk memperoleh pemahaman yang lebih mendalam, khususnya, mekanisme pertahanan dan model tripartit (*id*, *ego*, dan *superego*). Penelitian ini menemukan adanya ketidakseimbangan dalam struktur kepribadian Janie yang disebabkan oleh trauma masa kecilnya yaitu penyiksaan dan penelantaran dilakukan oleh Becky yaitu ibu kandungnya sendiri. Maka dari itu, trauma yang dialami memicu perilaku psikologisnya yang cenderung merujuk kepada tanda-tanda anak berisiko psikopati, seperti; sifat agresif terhadap hewan atau hewan peliharaan, tidak dapat membedakan teman atau musuh ataupun individu yang netral, tidak takut terhadap konsekuensi, menindas anak lain, dan melanggar hukum.

Kata kunci: *perilaku, trauma masa kecil, psikoanalisis, gangguan psikopat*

ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyse the connection between childhood trauma and the behaviour of one of the characters, Janie, in *The Perfect Child* novel by Lucinda Berry. This study employed a qualitative method and used Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory to obtain a deeper understanding, particularly, the defense mechanisms and the tripartite model (*id*, *ego*, and *superego*). The study finds that there is an imbalance in Janie's personality structure that was caused by her childhood trauma, in particular, abuse and neglect have been done by her birth mother, Becky. Thus, her trauma triggered her psychological behaviour which tends to refer to signs of a child at risk of psychopathy, such as; aggression towards animals or pets, cheating on friends or enemies or individuals who are neutral, fearless with consequences, bullying other children, and violating laws. Subsequently, due to Janie's trauma of her birth mother, she defends herself around women who resembles mother figure.

Keywords: *behaviour, childhood trauma, psychoanalysis, psychopathic disorder*