

ABSTRACT

The study examines the main character in Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being A Wallflower*. This study discusses sublimation as the defense mechanism done by Charlie, the main character, which are associated with his childhood trauma and Oedipus complex. Freudian psychoanalysis theory will be used as the main theory, especially the discussion of psychosexual development, anxiety, and defense mechanism. This research is a qualitative research where the data is taken from the novel *The Perks of Being A Wallflower*, library research, journals, and other resources which are appropriate in conducting the analysis. This study finds that Charlie's defense mechanism are associated with his childhood traumas. They are the sexual abuse by his aunt, the death of his aunt, and the death of his best friend. His trauma leads to several anxieties in his life, and to overcome the anxieties he does defense mechanism, that is sublimation. The sublimation is not only the way that he does to overcome his anxieties, but also a kind of symbolization of a friend figure he always wanted to and the symbol on how he wants to inspire other people.

Key words: *Trauma, Anxiety, Defense Mechanism, sublimation.*