

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**OF MOTHER, DAUGHTER, AND THEIR FEARS:
A PSYCHOANALYTIC ANALYSIS OF ELIZABETH ACEVEDO'S
THE POET X (2018)**



By:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA
SURABAYA**

2022

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the *Sarjana* Degree of English Department
Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Airlangga**

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SURABAYA**

2022

DECLARATION

I declare that this undergraduate thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the degree of *Sarjana Humaniora* (S.Hum) of the English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Airlangga is entirely my own work and has been solely the result of my own original research. Hereby, I confirm that:

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Surabaya, 28 September 2022

Nabila Hanintyas Ramadhani

121711233099

I hereby dedicate this thesis to my parents, family, and friends. Thank you for your never-ending support.

And to myself, thank you for refusing to give up on your life. May this serve as a reminder of your perseverance.

APPROVAL SHEET

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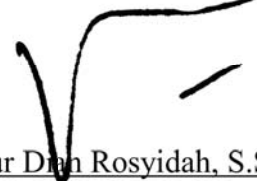
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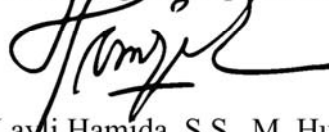
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本当に生きてくれてありがとう。

EPIGRAPH

「生きてくれてありがとう」

Thanks for still living.
—Takayan, Be Alright (大丈夫)

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji hubungan ibu-anak antara karakter Xiomara dan Altagracia Batista dalam novel puisi dewasa muda karya Elizabeth Acevedo, *The Poet X* (2018). Dengan menggunakan teori psikoanalisis Freud, khususnya pada ranah mekanisme pertahanan, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meneliti penggambaran hubungan disfungsional ibu-anak di dalam novel. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif, yang mana data primer berupa kutipan narasi dan dialog yang menunjukkan interaksi ibu-anak disortir dan dianalisis. Data primer juga didukung oleh data sekunder tentang budaya Republik Dominika dan dampak imigrasi yang didapat dari buku dan artikel jurnal. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa baik karakter ibu maupun anak telah melakukan mekanisme pertahanan yang berupa proyeksi dan pembentukan reaksi oleh ibu, dan represi serta sublimasi oleh anak. Namun, perilaku tersebut tidak hanya disebabkan oleh masalah psikologis, tetapi juga dipengaruhi oleh budaya, agama, dan dampak imigrasi yang menyebabkan adanya perbedaan nilai yang berujung pada konflik.

Kata kunci: *dysfunction, family conflict, mother-daughter relationship*

ABSTRACT

This study examines the mother-daughter relationship between the characters Xiomara and Altagracia Batista in Elizabeth Acevedo's young adult verse novel *The Poet X* (2018). By using Freudian psychoanalysis theory, especially in the area of defense mechanism, this study aims to investigate the depiction of dysfunctional mother-daughter relationship in the novel. This study employs a qualitative approach, in which primary data in the form of passages and dialogues showing mother-daughter interaction are selected and analyzed through close reading, and supported by secondary data about Dominican culture and impact of immigration obtained from books and journal articles. The study finds that both the mother and daughter have done defense mechanisms, which are projection and reaction formation by the mother, and repression and sublimation by the daughter. Yet, these actions are not only caused by psychological problems, but also influenced by culture, religion, and immigration; which results in a difference of values that leads to conflict.

Keywords: *dysfunction, family conflict, mother-daughter relationship*