INDIVIDUALITY DYNAMIC ANALYSIS OF THE PROTAGONIST’S CHARACTER IN THOMAS HARDY’S NOVEL TESS OF THE D’URBERVILLES

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Abstract

Tess of the D’Urbervilles is a novel written by Hardy that describes Tess as the victim of men who fall in love with her. The protagonist’s character in this novel will be analysed based on psychoanalysis theory especially about the dynamic of individuality explaining about the power urging behind the human’s action. The result is expected to give the reader a description and understanding Tess character based on psychoanalysis theory especially based on individuality dynamic part.

Keywords: drive, sexuality, aggression, anxiety

INTRODUCTION

Novel may be roughly defined as a long narrative in prose, meaning primarily for entertainment and presenting a realistic picture of life. Every novel must necessarily present a certain view of life or problems of life. A novel must exhibit incidents, characters, passions, and motives. “Truth” in a novel rests on the logic of the cause and effect in the plot and the complexity or psychological credibility of characterization.

There are some ways to express idea or thought in a literary work. In analyzing a literary work, it would be better if it focuses on the particular element in the literary work. This idea is strengthened by Kenney (1988) as follows:

To analyze a literary work is to identify the separate parts that make it up (this corresponds roughly to the notion of treating it to process), to determine the relationship among parts, and to discover the relation of the parts to the whole (1988:5)

One of the elements of a novel that can be analyzed is the protagonist character in the novel. This topic may yield very significant scientific findings if it is supported by some convincing arguments. All the characters are great in their most tragic moments. Interesting as his stories always are, arresting and even exciting as they are
sometimes, the appeal to the readers does not lie in any skilful manipulation of incidents but in his treatment of characters as the inevitable outcome of a special environment.

Hardy’s characters are elemental forces on the background of vaster elemental forces. He insists especially upon the emotional life of his characters. His very choice of types leads him away from those intellectual complexities. His greatest successes are therefore with subtle characters.

_Tess of the D’Urbervilles_ published in 1891 is beyond doubt the greatest of the Wessex novels. One important aspect of Hardy’s mastery of character-presentation in the novel is that he gives the reader what may be called the soul’s tragedy. The tragedy of Tess lies not in her desertion, her struggle for bread, or her frightful death, but it lies in her sin, her bewilderment of soul at Clare’s behavior, the intense agony of her despair, culminating in the awful wrecking of her nature in the foul embraces of Alec’s renewed lovemaking.

In _Tess of the D’urbervilles_, Hardy describes the protagonist’s characters as full of sense of duty, and sense of guilt. Hardy treats women with suffering as the victim of the men with whom they fall in love. Hardy’s _Tess of the D’Urbervilles_ is chosen because the presentation of the characters named Tess shows the confirmation of psychoanalysis that is very interesting to analyze. This thesis analyzes the novel from a different angle that means it analyzes the protagonist’s characters named Tess based on the psychoanalysis focusing on individuality dynamic part.

Theory is a model or the real example helping us to understand, predict, explain, and control the reality. In this part some theories related to the subject matter of this paper will be covered such as the descriptions on the notion of characters and characterization and psychoanalysis theories.

**The Dynamic of Individuality**

According to Freud in Muis’ book (2009:2-33), the dynamic of individuality explains about the power urging behind the human’s action. The dynamic of individuality consists of four parts, i.e. drive, sexuality, aggression, and anxiety.

**a. Drive**

Drive operates the constant motivation energy. Drive can be divided into two, i.e. Eros and Thanatos. Drive is rooted in, or comes from id. Every principle of drive
is characterized by the impetus, the source of drives, the aim of drive, and the object of drive.

b. Sexuality

The aim of sexuality is to get pleasure. There are some important things in the sexuality; those are erogenous zone, narsisme primer, narsisme secondary, love, sadism, and masochism.

c. Aggression

The last aim of aggression is destruction of self. Aggression also can take some actions, for instance, temptation, gossip, sarcasm, humbling, humor, and enjoying of another person’s suffering.

d. Anxiety

Anxiety is unpleasant condition. There are three types of the anxiety; i.e. neurotic anxiety, morality anxiety, and realism anxiety.

Meanwhile, according to Ferdinand Zaviera in *Teori Kepribadian Sigmund Frued* (2008; 28-52) sates that there are some psychologists who give ideas about the psychoanalysis theory. For examples, Carl Gustav Jung and Alfred Adler.

According to Jung, psyche can be divided into three. They are as follows.

a. Ego

Ego is represented as conscious world.

b. Personal Unconscious World

Personal Unconscious world is the memory that can be brought into the conscious world easily caused by certain reasons.

c. Collective Unconscious World

Collective Unconscious world consists of some archetypes. They are:

1. The Mother Archetype

The mother archetype is the ability to remember the relationships especially the relation with mother.

2. Mana

Mana is spiritual power.

3. Shadow

Shadow is dark side of ego where sex and instinct become part of this archetype.

4. Persona
Persona is a mask used when showing the self to the environment.

5. **Anima and Animus**

Anima is associated with the deep feeling and the power of life. Meanwhile, animus is personified as a wise person who has logic, rationalistic, and argumentative character. Anima and animus are the archetypes that must be responsible in the world of love.

6. **The Father Archetype**

The father archetype is often symbolized as a figure who always protects and as a leader.

7. **The Family Archetype**

The family archetype is the archetype representing the idea about the family relationship.

8. **The Child Archetype**

This archetype symbolizes as the future.

9. **The Animal Archetype**

The animal archetype is the archetype representing the relationship between human being and animal.

10. **The Magician Archetype**

The magician archetype is symbolized as a clown or conjurer.

11. **The Origin of Human Being Archetype**

This Archetype is represented by Adam.

12. **God Archetype**

God archetype is the archetype representing our wish to understand the nature, giving the meaning for all events, and seeing everything that must have purpose.

13. **Hermaphrodite Archetype**

The hermaphrodite archetype is the archetype symbolizing the unity of the opposite part.

14. **The Self Archetype**

The self archetype is the archetype representing the self with the special person who has reached the perfection. Although according to Jung, the perfection can be obtained after dying.

Molly Fisher (2001) states that Adler examined personality around the same time as Carl Jung and Sigmund Freud. They work on some theories together until
Adler rejected Freud’s on sex and maintained that personality difficulties are rooted in a feeling of inferiority deriving from restrictions on the individual’s need for self-assertion. Adler had a tendency to change his theory on personality throughout his life but he ultimately believed that people are focused on maintaining control over their lives. He believed in single drive or motivating force behind our behaviour, claiming that the desire we have to fulfill potentials becomes closer and closer to our ideas.

Adler’s theory includes four aspects; development of personality, striving toward superiority, psychological health, and the unity of personality. In studying personality, Alfred came up with the term inferiority complex. This complex developed when a person tried to conquer their inferiority complex by suppressing their existing feeling. He felt that people were constantly trying overcome their feeling of inferiority to reach superiority. Along with the idea of trying to overcome inferiority, Adler claimed that every person had an idea about what their perfect self would be like. He named this image the fictional finalism. Fictional finalism applies clearer directions that are to be made concerning oneself.

Character and Characterization

Character is one of the objects of this study. Therefore, it is worth describing some theories about character and personality in a literary work. First, Tilak (1990) notes that characterization is an important aspect of the art of a novelist. He also says that Thomas Hardy’s characters are from the lower strata of society because he believes that the characters and actions of people from high society are concealed by convention; the rustic is free from any control. Thomas Hardy excels in the portrayal of simple and elemental natures. His female characters are better and more forceful than his male characters, because women are more elemental, “nearer to nature” than men. Thus, his range of characterization is limited. All his important characters belong to Wessex and to the lower strata of society. When he strays out of Wessex characters and attempts to portray complex character from the upper classes of society, he fails miserably. But, this does not mean that his characters have only a topical or local interest. He deals with the universal passions of man and his characters are universal in their interest. Thomas Hardy’s characters are all human being, with common human weaknesses and virtues. His characters may have some faults, they may be sinful, but
they are never mean. The reader will never hate them; but love them despite their faults. They are grand even in the faults they might commit. Hardy's characters may be divided into two broad classes-major and minor. His major characters include such unforgettable and forceful figure as Tess, Angle Clare, etc. his minor characters are sons of the soil real children of the earth. They are the representatives of antiquity. They perform the function of the Greek Chorus in the novels of Hardy. They comment on the actions and the characters and tell the readers of what has happened on the stage. They are the main source of humor in his novels. They provide a norm by which to judge the main characters of Hardy's novels.

In addition, according to Roberts (2003: 66), there are relationships between literary character and psychology. The presentation and understanding of character is a major aim of fiction. In literature, a character is a verbal representation of human being as presented to us by authors through the depiction of action, conversation, descriptions, reactions, inner thoughts and reflections, and also through the authors' own interpretive commentary. The goal of literary characterization is to present not just externally perceived person, but also — and primarily — the inner person, the secret self: those expressed and unexpressed inner thoughts, aims, motives, aspiration, joys, fears, obsessions, and frustration that collectively make up human personalities. He also claims that in studying a literary character, the readers must try to determine the character's outstanding traits. A trait is a quality of mind or habit made of behavior that is evident in both active and passive ways such as never repaying borrowed money, supplying moral support to friends and loves one, being a person on whom people rely, being willing to listen to the thoughts and problems of others, avoiding eye contact, taking the biggest portion, or always thinking oneself as the center of attention. According to Edgar, there are five methods, how the authors disclose character in a literary work. They are as follows:

1. Action by character reveals their qualities.
2. The author's descriptions tell us about characters.
3. What characters say — dramatic statements and thoughts — reveal what they are like.
4. What others say tells us about a character.
5. The author, speaking as a storyteller or observer, may present judgment about characters.
Edgar (2003: 69) also explains that there are two major types of character, i.e. round characters and flat characters.

1. Round characters

The basic traits of round characters are that we learn enough about them to permit us to conclude that they are full, life like, and memorable. Their roundness and fullness are characterized by both individuality and unpredictability. A complementary quality about round character is, therefore, that they are dynamic.

2. Flat character

Unlike round characters, flat characters do not grow and are static as well as minor and not worthless in fiction, for example those related to relatives, acquaintances and functionaries. Sometimes, flat characters are prominent in certain types of literature, such as westerns, and police and detective stories, where the focus is less on character than performance.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research design is all processes which are needed in planning and doing a research. The research designs differ according to the research purposes. To analyze the data found in this novel, the writer uses qualitative method. The object of this analysis is Tess as the central figure in the novel entitled Tess of the D’urbervilles written by Thomas Hardy. Qualitative method here gives a portrayal of the dynamic of individuality especially the central figure in the novel based on the psychoanalysis theory.

RESULT

The Dynamic of Individuality

Drive

Drive operates as the motivation power. This motive can be divided into two parts, i.e. Eros and Thanatos. Tess has Eros motive. This Eros can be seen from Tess’s devotion to her parents. The motivation power leads Tess to earn money to support her family as depicted in the following quotation.

“I’d rather try to get work.” She murmured.

(Hardy, 1978; 74)
Tess has perseverance to work hard because there is a motive in her spirit to help her parents who urge her to go to Tantride to get job. The motive to manage a new life can also be seen when Tess tries to forget her past by becoming a dairymaid in Talbothays farm. Here Tess tries to get little pleasure in order that she is able to balance her soul and lessen her depression when she is pregnant before marriage and becomes a mother without husband. This bitter event raises her motive to continue her life by working in Talbothays. It is portrayed in the following quotation.

On one point she was resolved: there should be no more d’urberville air – castles in the dreams and deeds of her new life.
(Hardy, 1978; 151)

Tess gains her spirit to start a new life and forget Alec D’urberville. One way to live comfortably is by blotting out the bad dreams when she worked in D’urberville’s house. Tess’s new job in Talbohays brings her to acquaint with Angel. Angel is a man who works in Talbothays farm, too. She falls in love with him. The spirit to live and earn money drives her to the spirit to live somebody. Her love feeling can be seen when there is jealous feeling in herself. The jealous feeling comes out when Tess’s friends also like Angel as revealed in the following lines.

The deeper – passioned Tess was very far from sleeping even this conversation was another of the bitter pills she had been obliged to swallow that day. Scare the least feeling of jealousy arose in her breast.
(Hardy, 1978; 194)

From the above quotation, it can be seen that drive brings about love feeling. Love feeling between Tess and Angel is stimulus from their soul. Generally, drive comes out because there is an object. The object is Angel. Tess is so happy when she meets Angel that finally they marry. But, their marriage cannot last long because Angel cannot accept Tess’s confession about her past. He feels that she has deceived him; therefore, he decides to leaves her. To maintain her life, Tess works in Flintcomb-Ash, and she puts the magic word as the key to get money as seen in the following quotation.

“I be not mangled, and I be not bleeding; and I have two hands to feed and clothe me.”
(Hardy, 1978; 353)
Tess can still survive and earn money for herself. Drive will form someone’s spirit to defend life. The drives of love and life always change in Tess’s soul. It can be seen when Angel returns to Tess after he leaves her. Tess’s love for Angel never changes so that she decides to live together with him. It is an impossible thing because she has married Alec. Therefore, she kills Alec and runs away with Angel. In this condition, she is conscious that their relationship cannot stand for a long time. But, she still hopes that she can meet Angel again in the life after death as revealed in the following quotation.

Angel, do you think we shall meet again after we are dead?
I want to know....I wanted to see you again – so much, so much!”
(Hardy, 1978; 486)

Drive may lead to the appearance of a hope. Tess’s last hope is that she can meet Angel again after their death. She hopes that the failure of her love in this world can be repaired after they meet again in the life hereafter.

All the quotations on the dynamic of individuality especially in the drive part, depict that there are chances for Tess to survive. First, Tess has chance to get work in the D’Urberville’s residence and she also has a chance to meet Alec. Second, Tess has a chance to meet Angel and they love each other and then they get married although their marriage does not last long and they separate. This parting makes Tess work in Flintcomb-Ash which becomes Tess’s chance to maintain her life. But, in Flintcomb-Ash, Tess also has a chance to meet Alec again, which she does not expect. Finally, they get married after Tess is convinced by Alec that Angel will never comes back to her any more. This deceit urges her to kill Alec because her rage cannot be controlled. Tess finally succeeds to kill Alec by coincidence.

**Sexuality**

The purpose of sex is generally to look for pleasure. This pleasure can be manifested into four types. They are love, narcissism, sadism, and masochism.

Love is a strong affection to an object or someone besides ourselves. This condition can be seen in Tess’s characters when she does love Angel in the following quotation: “I only want to love you” (Hardy, 1978; 233)

Tess’s strong love and affection is only for Angel and it will never change although he leaves her for a long time. She also struggles to live together with him when he returns to her.
The second manifestation in the sexuality is narcissism. One of the characteristics of this manifestation is preoccupation with the imagination of success. It can be seen from Tess’s characters in the following quotation:

“I hope it is chance for earning money. It is no other kind of chance.”

(Hardy, 1978; 88)

Tess concentrates on the imagination of success. She is very sure that she has high spirit to get money in order that she is able to compensate the old horse which has been killed.

Jung explained that strong affection and high spirit that never diminish can be categorized as a part of collective unconscious world called Mana.

The third manifestation in the sexuality is sadism. Sadism can be said as the action to get pleasure by charging someone cruelly. This action can be seen when Tess kills Alec. The purpose of her action is to get Angel back who has returned.

“I could not bear the loss of you any longer – you don’t know how entirely I was unable to bear your not loving me! Say you do now, dear, dear husband; say you do, now I have killed him!”

(Hardy, 1978; 474)

Tess has done the cruel action to get pleasure that is to win Angel. After Tess killed Alec, she runs away with Angel. Love has blinded Tess so that she dare kill Alec without pity. Tess’s ability to kill Alec is one of the events by coincidence, according to Zeng Jia.

Alec has made something wrong for Tess before. Alec’s big mistake is seducing Tess and making her a mother without marriage. After the bad event, Tess tries to get job in Talbothays. Here she meets Angel and marries him. But their marriage does not last long. After Tess separates from Angel, she meets Alec again. Her family is very sad when she meets Alec. After the death of her father, all the family members are evicted from their house in Marlot and they have no shelter. Alec tries to help her and propose to marry her. Firstly, she refuses the proposal because she only loves Angel and hates Alec.

Tess has only two choices; to accept Alec’s proposal or to let her mother, brothers and sisters live without shelter. The condition forces her to accept the offer and Alec convinces her that Angel will never return. Eventually, she accepts his proposal. However, her marriage is unhappy because she does not love Alec. Tess
passes her married life with Alec constrainedly. It can be seen from the following quotation.

Tess gazed desperately at the pile of furniture....Tess listlessly lent a hand, and in a quarter of an hour the old four – post bed stead was dissociated from the heap of good and erected under the south wall of the church, the part of the building known as the D’urberville Aisle, beneath which the huge vaults lay.

(Hardy, 1978; 447)

Tess is unhappy to pass her daily life in D’urberville’s house after she accepts Alec’s proposal.

Aggression

The purpose of aggression is destruction. Aggression can be showed from some actions, such as temptation, gossip, humbling action, and enjoying another person’s suffering. These aggression actions can be seen in Tess’s characters.

There are two men who fall in love with her. The first man is Alec and the second one is Angel. It can be concluded that Tess is a woman having charms to tempt men. Tess’s charms have made Alec impressed. It can be seen from the following quotation:

He watched her pretty and unconscious munching through the skeins of smoke that pervaded the tent, and Tess D’urbeyfield did not drive, as she innocently looked down at the roses in her bosom....and it was this that caused Alec D’urberville’s eyes to rivet themselves upon her

(Hardy, 1978; 81-82)

The above quotation shows that Tess has a power to tempt a man. Her power is a charisma and plainness. Besides, she is also a good looking woman. Tess’s charms also have made Angel tempted. Angel falls in love with her because he feels attracted to her.

Tess was the merest stray phenomenon to Angel Clare as yet – a rosy warning apparition which had just acquired the attribute of persistence in his consciousness. So he allowed his mind to be occupied with her, deeming his preoccupation to be more than a philosopher’s regard of an exceedingly novel, fresh, and interesting specimen of womankind.

(Hardy, 1978; 185-186)

The above quotation also proves that Tess can make Angel love her. Angel always remembers her. Tess succeeds to make Alec and Angel admire her. Aggression also can be seen from the action of gossip. When Tess is working in Talbothays, Tess
has some friends in there namely Izz, Rety, and Marian. Tess sometimes has a gossip with her friends especially about Angel. The gossip makes her worried and jealous because she loves Angel very much.

This conversation was another of the bitter pills she had been obliged to swallow that day. Scarce the least feeling of jealousy arose in her breast.
(Hardy, 1978; 194)

However, Tess is successful to win the competition with her friends and Angel chooses Tess. She is very happy but her friends are very sad. She enjoys over other persons’ suffering and it is one of the aggression actions as seen in the following quotation.

This incident had turned the scale for her. They were simple and innocent girls....she had deserved worse – yet she was the chosen one. It was wicked in her to take all without paying. She would pay to the utterfost farthing; she would tell, there and then.
(Hardy, 1978; 290)

Tess is the source of her friends’ suffering. Retty and Mariam become fond of drinking liquor. They think that this action can lessen their sadness. Meanwhile, Izz becomes a gloomy woman.

The other aggression action done by Tess is considering Alec as a deceptive man. Alec is not a good man before because he has seduced her. After this event has gone, finally Alec tries to study religious teaching from a vicar. This religious teaching makes Alec repent, and he wants to rectify his mistakes done in the past to Tess. But, the repentance done by Alec is considered as something useless. Observe the following dialogue between Tess and Alec.

“I can’t believe in such sudden things!....you, and those like you, take your fill of pleasure on earth by making the life of such as me bitter and black with sorrow....I don’t believe in you – I hate it!”

“Tess, don’t speak so! It came to me like a jolly new idea! And you don’t believe me? What don’t you believe?”

“Your conversion. Your scheme of religion”
(Hardy, 1978; 387)

Tess does not believe Alec she also considers that the repentance done by Alec is a only mask to deceive her. It can be concluded that Tess has considered Alec as a
deceptive man. She also does not believe if Alec has really turned into a good man or converted into a religious man.

**Anxiety**

There are three anxieties feeling. They are the feeling of neurotic anxiety, morality anxiety, and realistic anxiety. The neurotic anxiety can be represented by nervousness. The nervousness is seen when she meets Alec for the first time.

“It is so very foolish, I fear I can’t tell you!”

(Hardy, 1978; 79)

Tess feels nervous when she meets Alec. She is afraid if her action is something that can be a funny thing for D’urberville’s family. But, Alec answers her friendly and gives her job even though he finally seduces her. Alec’s conduct has caused her to suffer for a long time.

Anxiety can also be seen when Tess loves Angel as the second man coming in her life. She feels shy when Angel returns back to her.

“I hope I am not too heavy? She said timidly”

(Hardy, 1978; 202)

Tess’ attitude of being shy indicates he anxiety. Besides her shyness, the morality anxiety also can be seen from her being afraid to make an action. This action can be seen on her characters when she refuses Angel’s proposal. She is afraid to be scorned by other people. “Your friends would scorn me” (Hardy, 1978; 237).

The feeling of morality anxiety on Tess can also be seen from her guilty feeling. There are many kinds of guilty feelings on her characters. Her morality anxiety is seen when she refuses Angel’s proposal as seen below.

“Ah – that’s different – it is for your good, indeed my dearest! O, believe me, it is only for your sake! I don’t like to give my self the great happiness. O’ promising to be yours in that way – because – because I am sure I ought not to do it.”

(Hardy, 1978; 238)

It is seen that she feels anxious to accept the proposal. The refusal of the proposal is due to her feeling guilty. She is afraid if her past will make their relationship broken and she will undergo unhappy life. This sadness may cause mental depression. Therefore, she decides to refuse Angel’s proposal.

The third anxiety is realist anxiety. This feeling can be seen in the last story of this novel. After Tess kills Alec, she runs away with Angel. In her escape, she feels
afraid that her love will not last long and she asks Angel to protect her sister, Liza Lu as in the following quotation.

“Angel, if anything happens to me, will you watch over ‘Liza Lu for my sake?”

(Hardy, 1978; 485)

The realist anxiety influences her to accept the facts of a situation that will happen to herself. She is sure that she will not be able to protect herself or family. One of her family members she is worried much is her younger sister, Liza Lu.

From the three types of anxieties: neurotic anxiety, moral anxiety, and realistic anxiety, all of them cause fear, shyness, guilt, stress and sadness. All Tess’ anxieties lead her to commit crime and even tend to commit suicide. When Tess kills Alec because she wants to run away with Angel, the action, in fact, only leads to the destruction of herself.

In short, Tess’s anxieties and the crime she has committed are the examples of mental disorder and it is a reaction of her failure to fulfill her wish. According to Muis (2009), anxiety is the part of the dynamic individuality; meanwhile, Adler expounds that it is one of the reactions to fulfill a wish called striving for perfection focusing on the passion that leads someone to commit crime. This is called mental disorder. But, Zeng Jia claims that the crime done by Tess is a chance or coincidence which leads to her life tragedy.

CONCLUSION

The dynamic of individuality divides into four parts: drive, sexuality, aggression, and anxiety. Drive can be seen from Tess’s motivation and energy to struggle. It functions as the spirit in Tess’s life. Sexuality can be seen from Tess’s love feeling to Angel, narcissism, sadistic, and masochism. Aggression can be shown from some of her actions, for instance, temptation, gossip, humbling, and enjoying another person’s suffering. While the anxiety can be seen from her fear, inferiority complex and guilty feeling.

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