### THE ID DOMINANCE IN KATHLEEN GLASGOW'S NOVEL

### GIRL IN PIECES (2016)

## THESIS

Submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the strata (S1) degree



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### ABSTRACT

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In the psychoanalysis theory developed by Sigmund Freud, the personality structure consists of three main elements that interact with each other: id, ego, and superego. A balanced personality between the id, ego and superego is considered the basis for optimal personality. Therefore, if one of the three personality elements is more dominant, there is a potential for experiencing a personality disorder, such as the main character of the novel "Girl in Pieces" (2016) by Kathleen Glasgow whose id is more dominant than her ego and superego named Charlie. This study aims to examine how id dominance influenceS the character Charlie's behavior in Kathleen Glasgow's novel "Girl in Pieces". This research is a literary research carried out using qualitative research methods. The theory used in this research is the Theory of Personality by Sigmund Freud (1923). Data collection techniques in this research are close reading, highlighting and annotating, and finding quotations. The result of this research shows that id dominance in character Charlie's influences her to do self-injury behavior such as cutting and hitting.

Keywords: Id dominance, Self-Injury Behavior, Theory of Personality, Girl in Pieces.

### ABSTRAK

## Madiar, Melati Vaya Nugraha (2024). CHARLIE'S ID DOMINANCE INFLUENCES SELF-INJURY BEHAVIOR IN KATHLEEN GLASGOW'S NOVEL GIRL IN PIECES (2016). Skripsi. Departemen Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni. Universitas Negeri Padang.

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Dalam teori psikoanalisis yang dikembangkan oleh Sigmund Freud, struktur kepribadian terdiri dari tiga unsur utama yang saling berinteraksi: id, ego, dan superego. Kepribadian yang seimbang antara id, ego dan superego dianggap sebagai dasar kepribadian yang optimal. Oleh karena itu, jika salah satu dari ketiga unsur kepribadian tersebut lebih dominan maka berpotensi mengalami gangguan kepribadian, seperti tokoh utama novel "Girl in Pieces" (2016) karya Kathleen Glasgow yang idnya lebih dominan dibandingkan egonya dan superego bernama Charlie. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan bagaimana pengaruh dominasi id terhadap perilaku karakter Charlie dalam novel "Girl in Pieces" karya Kathleen Glasgow. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian sastra yang dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Teori Kepribadian oleh Sigmund Freud (1923). Teknik pengumpulan data dalam penelitian ini adalah pembacaan cermat, menyorot dan membuat anotasi, serta mencari kutipan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dominasi id pada karakter Charlie mempengaruhinya untuk melakukan perilaku melukai diri sendiri seperti memotong dan memukul.

Kata kunci: Dominasi Id, Perilaku Self-Injury, Teori Kepribadian, Girl in Pieces.

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May this thesis contribute in a small way to a deeper understanding of organizational communication dynamics in the digital era. Gratitude is extended for all the support and assistance provided.

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#### **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Literary works are often mirrors that reflect the complexity of the human condition, and in the novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow, the journey of the main character, Charlie Davis, displays a heartfelt story of someone trying to piece herself. This literary work intimately depicts Charlie's inner struggle with psychological problems which has an impact on her behavior. In the analysis of this novel, the role of the id dominance in influencing Charlie's behavior is the focus of in-depth research. By delving deeper into how the character are influenced by her basic instincts, this research aims to provide deeper insight into the complexities underlying the id dominances and how they are reflected in literary works. By understanding these complex dynamics, it is hoped that it can contribute to our understanding of the character and narratives.

The concept of id dominance plays an important role in shaping character's behavior. The id, as part of the personality structure proposed by Freud (1923), represents an individual's basic instincts and instinctual drives, which often conflict with social norms or broader self-interest. In the novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow, the character Charlie is a powerful example of how id dominance can influence her behavior. By prioritizing the satisfaction of her instincts, which are often destructive, Charlie finds temporary relief from the psychological tension she experiences. However, the long-term impact of this id dominance results in a destructive cycle that deepens her inner battle and complicates her efforts to unite herself. Therefore, understanding how id dominance influences a character's behavior is important in the context of understanding individuals who experience

emotional difficulties and trauma.

This research used the theory of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud as a basis theory for investigating the dominance of the id in the novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow. Psychoanalysis is often used to analyze character and motivation in literary works. Literature not only offers stories and plots, but also provides a window into characters' inner states, internal conflicts, and emotional dynamics that influence human behavior. Therefore, absorbing literature, especially with a psychoanalysis approach, can be a window that reveals complex truths about humans and provides valuable insight into the human inner journey (Hossain, 2017:41).

In the psychoanalysis theory developed by Freud (1923), the personality structure consists of three main elements that interact with each other: id, ego, and superego. The id is part of the personality structure which is related to the individual's instincts and unconscious drives. The id operates on the principle of uninhibited pleasure and tends to satisfy immediate desires without regard to social norms or long-term consequences. The ego is the part that develops later and functions as a mediator between the id, external reality, and social norms. The ego tries to fulfill the id's desires in a way that is acceptable to the surrounding environment. Meanwhile, the superego represents moral norms and values instilled by society and authority, attempting to inhibit id impulses that are considered inconsistent with ethics and morality (Bertens, 2006:33).

A balanced personality between the id, ego and superego is considered the basis for optimal personality, in accordance with Freud's psychoanalysis theory (1923). The id represents basic unconscious instincts and desires, the ego acts as a mediator whose function is to maintain a balance between the id's needs and external reality, while the superego contains internal norms and morals taught by society. If the id is dominant, negative effects can appear such as self-injury behavior, lack of self-control, and lack of consideration of consequences. This can lead to irrational and irresponsible actions, as well as sacrificing long-term interests for instant gratification (Arumndari, 2018:123).

For a deeper understanding on this topic, several studies have explored id dominance in several literary works. The first research, which discusses the novel "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley (Anggraini 2018). The second research, which focuses on the novel "The Sun Also Rises" by Hemingway (Kiramatullah 2018). The third study, examining Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's novel "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (Lesmana and Afriana 2019). Last, research on the novel "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn (Situmorang and Evyanto 2020). From some of the research above, id dominance tends to create bad influences such as anxiety, impulsivity, and mental instability.

In this study, researcher discussed how domination of the id influences character's behavior in Kathleen Glasgow's novel "Girl in Pieces" (2016). The novel describes the emotional and struggling journey of a teenager named Charlie Davis. Charlie, an emotionally and physically scarred young girl, begins her story against the backdrop of a dysfunctional family and a traumatic past. In her attempt to escape a difficult life, Charlie falls into patterns of destructive behavior, including self-injury. After experiencing various challenges, Charlie is placed in a recovery center to help her to deal with her pain and inner turmoil. This novel depicts Charlie's journey in search of recovery, friendship, and love, while trying to rebuild the broken pieces of herself. Glasgow presents a story filled with honesty and strength, depicting a journey of healing and self-discovery that inspired readers.

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Kathleen Glasgow is the author of the book "Girl in Pieces". She is an American writer born in the United States. According to Cumberland University (2022), before becoming a writer Glasgow had a strong background in the creative arts. She has worked in various fields, including fashion, advertising, and fine arts. "Girl in Pieces" is Glasgow's debut novel published in 2016 managed to become one of the *New York Times* bestseller lists. Glasgow succeeds in creating a powerful and insightful narrative about healing and strength in the face of life's adversity. After the success of the book, Glasgow has been thrust into the spotlight in the literary world. Her works often explore deep themes of mental health, courage, and one's struggle to overcome life's obstacles. Her presence in the world of young adult literature has received many awards and recognition from readers and critics.

The novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow has been discussed several times with interesting topics that enrich understanding of the characters and themes presented in this novel. First, Sitepu (2020) explored the main character's non-suicidal self-injury in his research. Next, Oktaviani (2021) described the psychological factors that trigger PTSD in Charlie. Furthermore, Surayya and Purwarno (2022) identified various forms of traumatic experience. These studies collectively provide an in-depth perspective on the complexity of the main character and sensitive themes raised in the novel "Girl in Pieces."

In exploring the dominance of the id in the novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow, this research explores the complex layers of Charlie's character. Glasgow's depiction of Charlie's struggle with self-injurious behavior provides a sharp perspective from which to examine the interplay between instinctual drives and psychological trauma. Through qualitative analysis of the novel's narrative, this research seeks to reveal the complexity that underlies Charlie's character's id tendencies, which drives her to commit self-injury by applying Freud's (1923) psychoanalytic theory. Furthermore, by contextualizing Charlie's experiences within the framework of id dominance, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of human personality. Ultimately, the exploration of the dominance of ideas in "Girl in Pieces" offers valuable insight into the complexities of mental health struggles and the resilience of the human spirit in overcoming adversity.

Moreover, while offering valuable understanding about id dominance in literature, it is important to acknowledge limitations. The discussions that have been reviewed often focus on classical literary works, which might not directly reflect modern social and psychological contexts. In addition, the lack of in-depth analysis of the influence of id dominance on mental problems such as self-injury behavior, especially in the context of the novel "Girl in Pieces," creates a knowledge gap that needs to be filled. Therefore, this thesis was conducted to present a more detailed analysis of the id influence character's behavior of a more modern novel. This thesis can make a significant contribution in completing the framework for our understanding of this theme, capturing the psychological nuances and manifestations of social reality that are more appropriate to today's times. Thus, the discussion of this thesis is important to deepen our understanding of the relationship between literature, psychology, and the reality of human life today.

#### **1.2 Focus of the Problem**

The focus of this research lies in uncovering the dominance of the id in the character Charlie and how it influences her behavior. This study aims to gain a deeper understanding of the interaction between id dominance and Charlie's behavior in the literary work, specifically the novel "Girl in Pieces" (2016) by Kathleen Glasgow. By examining Charlie's actions, decisions, and psychological dynamics within the context of Freudian theory, this research seeks to illuminate how her unconscious desires and impulses shape her behavior throughout the narrative.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

To focus on this topic, the research focuses on the following question:

 How does id dominance influence character's behavior in the novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow?

# 1.4 Purpose of the Research

The problem statement below helps explain the following research

objectives:

1. To explain how the id dominance influences character's behavior in the

novel "Girl in Pieces" by Kathleen Glasgow.