

**FICTIONAL FINALISM OF IKAL TO GET BETTER EDUCATION IN
THE RAINBOW TROOPS NOVEL BY ANDREA HIRATA (2009):
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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Naskah artikel tersebut, layak dan dapat disetujui untuk dipublikasikan.

Demikian persetujuan yang dibuat, semoga dapat dipergunakan sepenuhnya.

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**FICTIONAL FINALISM OF IKAL TO GET BETTER EDUCATION IN
THE RAINBOW TROOPS NOVEL BY ANDREA HIRATA (2009):
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**

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ABSTRACT

The major issue of this study is How is the fictional finalism of Ikal to get a better education reflected in The Rainbow Troops Novel by Andrea Hirata. The objective of this study is to analyze the structural elements of the novel and to discuss fictional finalism of Ikal viewed from individual psychology perspective.

The research is qualitative study. The researcher uses two data sources: primary data source and secondary data source. The secondary data are taken from several references such as articles, website about the novel, commentaries, and other about the author on individual psychological material to support the subject matter. The data collection method is library research by collecting both primary and secondary data. The data analysis method is descriptive qualitative analysis based on an individual psychological approach.

The results of the study show; firstly, structural analysis: The Rainbow Troops is a novel by Andrea Hirata which is written based on real event in live. The Rainbow Troops novel by Andrea Hirata translated by Angie Kilbane and published in 2009. The theme of this novel is "Destitution is not the hard obstacle to get a high education". Secondly, an individual psychological analysis: the striving for superiority of Ikal appears related with education and friendship. The inferiority feelings appear when Ikal knows that he doesn't want to live alone without his friend. Social interest of Ikal is everybody knows him because he is a smart kid, kind and cares with his friend. The fictional finalism of Ikal appears related with two things, the first is a high education and the second is a better life and not primitive condition on his village. The style of life of Ikal appears because he has no bad life style for a kid. In The Rainbow Troops there are not much creative self of Ikal, Ikal is a traditional kid so his creative effort runs only based on his instinct.

Key word: Individual psychology, The Rainbow Troops, Fictional Finalism.

A. Introduction

1. Background of the Study

The novel entitled *The Rainbow Troops* by Andrea Hirata translated by Angie Kilbane and published in 2009. *The Rainbow Troops* is Indonesia's most powerful book, because it was success with the best selling of the year in Indonesian version (the original version) *Laskar Pelangi*. Andrea Hirata the author shattered national sales records is the best selling author in Indonesia to date, reached over 5 millions reader, and contributed significantly to the development of modern Indonesian literature.

The Rainbow Troops, set on Belitong Island, Indonesia, tells the story of a tight-knit group of students and their teachers fighting for education and dignity, even as they face continual hardship. Fabulously rich in natural resources, Belitong is also home to chronic poverty and educational discrimination. This story tells of a persistent young teacher and her tireless efforts to fight for her ten students' right to an education. This novel, take the reader on a journey through the beauty of childhood friendship, the inspiration of love and the power of education. The student's magnetic personalities unflagging determination are sure to inspire. Related to the analysis, the novel will be analyzed by using individual psychological approach focusing on fictional finalism of the major character Ikal. Fictional finalism is one of the sixes element of individual psychological approach such as: striving for superiority, inferiority feeling, creative self, social interest and style of life. This fictional finalism is the situation where each person imagines a better situation than the present. This ideal situation is different each person. It is an image of the fulfillment of what is lacking at the present time (Cloninger, 2009: 103).

In this study, the writer wants to analyze related with the theory mentioned above in one study entitled "Fictional Finalism of Ikal to

Get Better Education in **The Rainbow Troops** Novel by Andrea Hirata (2009): An Individual Psychological Approach.”

2. Literature Review

To prove the originality of the study, the writer presents the previous writer related to the topic. The first study related to *The Rainbow Troops* novel has been conducted by Pratiwi, Mustafiah Nur (2010) Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, entitled *A comparative Study Between English and Indonesian Address System Used in Novel Twilight Saga and Laskar Pelangi Tetralogi*. Her study was descriptive qualitative analysis which focuses on politeness principles in address system to analyze the data. The result of the study were, the type of the variations of address system come into 13 types: first name, last name, nick name, full name, intimate name, kinship name, rockery name, title, profession, title plus profession. Then, there are 9 reasons in using address system: showing anger, showing anxiety, showing intimacy, showing kinship, showing mockeries, showing name, showing power, showing respectful and showing solidarity.

The second study has been conducted by Fitriana, Meila (2012), Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, entitled *The Influence Of Community Spirit In Gaining Education On Andrea Hirata's The Rainbow Troops Novel : A Sociological Approach*. Her study was descriptive qualitative analysis where focuses on the structural analysis of each element, it shows that the character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme are related to each other and form the unity into good quality of novel. Second, based on the sociological analysis, there is a close relationship between the novel story and the reality of Indonesian life. The result of the study shows that there are moral message that the power of dream can lead someone to get happiness. Based on sociological analysis, there is a close relationship between the novel and the social aspect, where the

story tells about the condition which happens in 1970. The poverty conditions influence many aspects in the society life in Indonesia and one of them is in education. Based on the poverty, not all the people can get a good education in their life. The effects of it, there are so many people who cannot read and write. The condition makes the children in *Rainbow Troops* want to fight to get a good education even in a poor condition.

The difference between the recent studies from the previous studies is her approach uses an individual psychological approach. The object of the study is the major character Ikal in his action to get a good education in a poor condition of their Island.

3. Problem Statement

The problem of this research is that “How is the fictional finalism of Ikal to get a better education reflected in *The Rainbow Troops* Novel by Andrea Hirata?”

4. Limitation of the Study

To carry out the study, the writer will limit the study; the writer tries to focus on the fictional finalism of Ikal dealing with struggle to get a better education.

5. Objective of the Study

Based on the above problem statement, the objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel.
2. To discuss fictional finalism of Ikal viewed from individual psychology perspective.

6. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of this study are To give information and knowledge to the reader, especially the literary study on *The Rainbow Troops* Novel by Andrea Hirata and to get better understanding of the novel, in literary field as references to other researchers in analyzing the novel especially based on the individual psychological approach.

7. Underlying Theory

Underlying theory used in this research, namely individual psychological approach. This underlying theory is divided into four parts. The first part is notion of individual psychology. The second is basic principle of individual psychological that consists of inferiority feeling, striving for superiority, fictional finalism, style of life, social interest, and creative power. The third is structural element of the novel. The last is theoretical application.

B. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

This type of research is descriptive qualitative in which the writer does not need statistic to collect, to analyze and to interpret data. The descriptive focuses on the basic data transformation into a form which makes to be able for the reader to read and understand about the point and the data. The use of this descriptive is to express and picturing the answers form the observation, (Sarwono, 2006: 138). In brief, qualitative research is the research employing the method of collecting, describing, classifying and analyzing the data and then drawing conclusion. By using the qualitative method, this research is aimed to describe the fictional finalism of Ikal in *The Rainbow Troops* Novel by Andrea Hirata based on Individual psychological.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Ikal* as the major character of the novel.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The data will be classified into two categories, primary data and secondary data:

- a. Primary data source is the novel *The Rainbow Troops* Novel by Andrea Hirata.

- b. The secondary data are taken from some references and material related to the study weather by picking up from internet and other books.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

In this research, the writer uses internet and library research. The necessary steps are as follows:

- 1) Reading the novel twice or three times.
- 2) Reading both novel original version and English version to get the theme and the topic of the English version.
- 3) Taking notes of the important parts in both primary and secondary data sources.
- 4) Browsing to the internet to get some information article that related to the topic (the author, the novel, and the theories of literary).

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In this research the technique that will be used to analyze the data is descriptive analysis technique. The writer will describe the structural elements of the novel with individual psychology of literature. The collected data will be interpreted and analyzed in detail through individual psychology of literature in this case by showing the fictional finalism of Ikal to get a better education: Individual Psychological Perspective. Then drawing conclusion based on the analysis.

C. Finding and Discussion

1. Structural Element Analysis

This chapter will discuss the structural element of Andrea Hirata's *The Rainbow Troops* (2009) novel. The writer will breakdown the novel into its structural elements which include character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, and theme.

a. Character and Characterization

There are many characters presented in Andrea Hirata's *The Rainbow Troops* (2009) novel that can be classified as major and minor character. As major character there are 1) *Ikal*, The real name of Ikal is Andrea Hirata, but he is usually called 'Ikal' by his family and friends. The hair of Hirata is curly, that is why he is called 'Ikal' due to Ikal in English means curly. Hirata or Ikal is the main character in TRT novel. He is an 'I' figure in this novel. Ikal is a smart boy in the class and he gets second rank there. 2) *Bu Muslimah*, she is phenomenal teacher who is storied in this novel. She is N.A. Muslimah Hafsari Hamid binti K.A. Abdul Hamid. She is Ibunda Guru for Laskar Pelangi or The Rainbow Troops. Bu Muslimah is a type of patient person. Based on her characterization, she always uses jilbab everyday. 3) *Lintang*, Lintang Samudra Basara bin Syahbani Maulana Basara is his complete name. He is a genius boy in the school. He always gets first rank in the class. He was born in a poor family because his father works as a fisherman with no boat. 4) *Mahar*, the complete name of Mahar is Mahar Ahlan bin Jumadi Ahlan bin Zubair bin Awan. In the class, he is another handsome boy except Trapani. He is not too smart in many subjects such as science, math, English, and so on. But he is a master in art subject because he can sing and play the music well. 5) *Trapani*, the other members of Laskar Pelangi or The Rainbow Troops is Trapani. The complete name of Trapani is Trapani Ihsan Jarnari bin Zainudin Ilham Jarnari. He is a handsome and good-looking boy. Trapani is a quite boy; he speaks when it was necessary. In the future he wants to be a teacher and teach in isolated areas. 6) *Syahdan*, Syahdan Noor aziz bin Syahari Noor Aziz is one of Laskar pelangi or The Rainbow Troops members. He is a son of a fisherman who is always cheerful and cager in doing everything. He eats a lot but he is often defeated by

his friend because he is the smallest boy on the troop and especially toward his desire to be an actor in the future. 7) *A Kiong*, Chau Chin Kiong or Kiong is one of Laskar Pelangi or The Rainbow Troop members who were born in a Hokian family or as a Tionghoa descent. His name is changed to become Muhammad Jundullah Gufron Nur Zarnan after he became a muallaf. A Kiong is not a good-looking boy, but he likes to help everyone except Sahara. 8) *Kucai*, Mukharam Kucai Khairani or Kucai is the class leader during the school generation of Laskar Pelangi or The Rainbow Troops. He is a small boy because he has suffered from malnutrition. But he is a friendly boy and he has an intelegent-looking. 9) *Borek*, his name is Borek, he is an ordinary student and his behavior wasn't peculiar, but everyone always calls him Samson. It is caused by his muscular body. Since he was a child, he is only interested on muscular because he was no longer interested in anything but making his muscles bigger. 10) *Sahara*, at the first time, she is the only girl in Laskar Pelangi or The Rainbow Troops. Her complete name is N.A. Sahara Aulia Fadillah binti K.A. Muslim Ramadhani Fadillah. She is a stubborn girl who is very obedient on her faith because she was hard to convince and not easy to impress. She is also a friendly girl to anyone except A Kiong.

While as the minor character there are 1) *Pak Harfan*, K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor bin K.A. Fadillah Zein Noor. He is a headmaster of Muhammadiyah elementary in Belitong. He has a thick mustache that was connected to a dense brown beard, dull and sprinkled with grays. His face, in short, is a bit scary. But, he is a kind-hearted man and so patient. He does not look like other headmaster, he is simple man. 2) *A Ling*, A Ling is A Kiong's cousin. She is Ikal's first love. A Ling is a diligent and beautiful

Hokian girl because she is a student of the national school. She always helps her parent in their shop, namely Sinar Harapan.

b. Setting

Setting can be categorized into three parts, namely 1) *setting of place*, the main places which are used in Belitong town including the Muhammadiyah School and the Sinar Harapan shop. 2) *Setting of time*, The Rainbow Troops novel (2009) which is written by Andrea Hirata takes a time in the middle of 1970s until early 1990s. In that time, Indonesia was not in good condition yet. There were many aspects that had to be fixed, like Indonesia education and the public welfare. 3) *Social setting*, the social setting of the novel is about the poor religious society and they still respect to moral values. Besides that, they are a society that tries to gain education in the poverty condition. The story is begun by the social setting in the school when the school is threatened by the South Sumatra Department of Education and Culture to be closed if the school can not get minimum 10 students. There only 9 students which attend the opening ceremony. It can be seen on the poor condition of Belitung Island.

c. Plot

1) The beginning

The story started from the situation of Muhammadiyah School, and this is the school where the troops gather in *Laskar Pelangi*. Actually the rainbow troops are a nickname given by his teacher, Muslimah because of their hobby to climb filicium trees after rain. They regarded the rainbow as their symbol of their ideals. The Belitong village children were never gave up although the condition never in line with their expectations. They always try, try, and try.

2) The middle

The middle is the formation of *Laskar Pelangi* united and they are the eleven children of *The Rainbow Troops*, names are

Ikal, Lintang, Mahar, Sahara, A Kiong, Harun, Trapani, Syahdan, Kucai, Borek and Flo. They always go together and do all the joy and sorrow together. They thirst with science which just they know from the newspaper from the capital city which comes late every month. But they always try and they, for the first time a bad school can win the science Olympiad. They had competition with state primary school of their village. It is a real story about love, honesty, friendship, and lives in the nature.

3) Climax

Climax happened, when Bu Mus and the troops try to meet with the PN estate chief, Bu Mus wants to clarify about the condition happens on her school after the estate build on the school area.

4) Resolution

The resolution happens, when the *laskar pelangi* makes decision to talk with the government in PN. They go to the gate of estate and want to meet with the owner of the estate and talk about the condition of their school that is isolated by the PN.

Finally, on the end of story, Ikal succeeds as student and he finally finds his finalism. Where his dream comes true, when he was a kid, he really wanted to get a high education.

d. Point of View

Andrea Hirata in *The Rainbow Troops* uses the first participant. It can be seen from the novel that author introduces himself as a character on his novel. Here the author wants to show that he also feel the condition and situation of the poor education on Belitung Island. He wants to show that, he is an ordinary person that he wants to ask the reader to feel the same thing as he is.

e. Theme

A theme needs not to be moral or message; it may be what the story is about. Dealing with the problem in the research analysis, the theme of this novel is “Destitution is not the hard obstacle to get a high education”.

2. Individual Psychological Analysis

The *Rainbow Troops* is the adventure novel based on the story of a real event in life. This is the life of kids in realities story and telling about education in Indonesia that time. Actually the rainbow troops are a nickname given by the teacher, Muslimah because of their hobby to climb filicium trees after rain. The *Rainbow Troops* based on individual psychological approach are analyzed the story related on the sixes element striving for superiority, inferiority feelings, creative self, fictional finalism, style of live, and social interest.

a. Striving for Superiority

Striving is a feeling of inferior to be superiority. All individuals' progress, growth, and development are result from attempt to compensate for one's inferiorities. Superiority is the fundamental driving force in life, to be better than before. This superiority is to defeat the inferior in life. The superior of Ikal in *The Rainbow Troops* found related with education and friendship where he wants to get a high education and he doesn't want to loose his friends. Ikal is one of the smart students on the *Laskar Pelangi*, at school he always races to get a good mark and position in rank with Lintang. Everyday Ikal learns to get a good mark on every lesson, but he still can not defeat his friend Lintang. He always gets the second position after Lintang. Studying every night is one of his struggles to get a good mark and to get the first position in class. Since the first quarter of the grade, he perpetually received the second rank.

b. Inferiority Feelings

Inferiority is the minor feelings or negative feelings within human and it often appears in every human being life. This feeling can be largely constructive to human, it will change human emotionally. Human being has a feeling of inferiors at some point of their life, and they attempt to compensate for their presence of this feeling. The anxiety of Ikal is his bigger inferior because he also can feel his teacher's anxiety. His teacher, Bu Mus, is apprehensive. Her face has tense and twitching nervously. She counts the number of children sitting on the long benches, she so worries that she does not even care about the sweat pouring down onto her eyelids. The sweat beading around her nose smudges her powder makeup; streaking her face and making her look like the queen's servant in Dul Muluk. She feels nervous, afraid if something happens with her student. This makes Ikal also anxious suddenly. Ikal feels anxious because of the restless Bu Mus, and because of the sensation of his father's burden spreading over his entire body. The inferiority of Ikal found where Ikal knows that he doesn't want to live alone without his friend. Ikal is a good kid, with a good of sense and empathy. This character makes his inferior increase.

c. Social Interest

Social interest is in born; that man is social creature by nature, and not only by habit. Humans must consider relationship to others and to the socio-cultural context in life. Social interest is a barometer of psychological health or abnormality. So, normality or health, people always concern with other and their goal of superiority of social although they realize that everything is not right in the world. The social interest of Ikal found that Ikal is a good kid, everybody knows him because he is a smart kid and also kinds and cares with his

friend. He loves all of his friend and he doesn't want if he loses all of his friend. At school he also knows the parents of all of his friend because they are his good friends.

d. Fictional Finalism

Adler's concept of fictional finalism is the idea of human behavior is directed toward a future goal of its own making. Adler (in Hjelle & Ziegler, 1992: 153) theorized that our ultimate goal (those goals which give our life direction and purpose) are fictional goals that can neither be tested nor confirmed against reality. There are only two dreams of Ikal that he is striving of. The first is a high education and the second is a better life and not primitive condition on his village. To get his fictional finalism, he does a lot of thing, such as always studying hard because of his enthusiasm in school. The primitive condition of his village makes him feel sad. He remembers about the past life of his grandfather where they lived in a nomadic group, wandering the coasts of Belitong. They wore clothes of bark and ate by spearing animals or trapping them in tree roots. They slept on the branches of trees to avoid being attacked by predatory creatures. Ikal doesn't want if that time always haunts his village again, so he really wants to get a high education for his village.

e. Style of Life

Style of life is the term Adler used to refer to the flavor of a person's life, it includes not only the person's goal, but also self-concept, feeling toward others, and attitude toward the world. It's the product of the interaction of heredity, environment, and goal of success, social interest, and creative power. The individual's style of life is largely determined by the specific inferiorities, either fancied or real, that the person has. Adler states that every person has goals, feels inferior, strives to

be superiority, and this striving dealing with social interest. But everyone has different way to reach out. The style of life of Ikal found that Ikal is a kid from one of ancient races in Belitong, on his village there are no modern people so he has no bad life style. He is a good kid where he always respects on the village rules and also his religion. He also loves adventure that makes him brave all the time. Education makes him think positive and he is always curious and interacts among other.

f. Creative Self (Power)

Creative power means the influences of heredity of any environment toward a person in overcoming the problem of life. Each person is empowered with the freedom to create his or her own life style. This creative of life is responsible to person's life goal, and contributed to the development of social interest. The concept of creative self implies that each creates his own personality, that he actively constructs it out of his experience and heredities. In *The Rainbow Troops* there are not much creative self of Ikal, because the creative is represented with the struggle of Ikal. Ikal is a traditional kid so his creative effort runs only based on his instinct. When he falls in love with A ling, he has no courage to say his feeling directly to A ling, so he just writes down the poem for her to show his love. Ikal believes that poem can make his love be accepted or at least make her beloved happy. It is success, A ling reads the poem on the class and she loves it. She says that the poem is beautiful. Then Ikal and his friends feel that they also can make a group of kids who always climb up the tree together with the same dream to get a better education. The troop names *Laskar Pelangi* or in English *The Rainbow Troops*. This creative idea appears on the kids mind in School where they always play the game together and always learn together in class.

D. Conclusion and Pedagogical Implication

1. Conclusion

There is a close relationship between *The Rainbow Troops* and an individual psychology, particularly in human striving for superiority and the creativity of human to support their strives. Another key theme in the series is that the struggle to defeat the inferiority to fulfill the fictional finalism by striving for superiority. The rainbow troops is a novel by Andrea Hirata which is written based on real event in life. The rainbow troops by Andrea Hirata translated by Angie Kilbane and published in 2009. The theme of this novel is “Destitution is not the hard obstacle to get a high education”. The striving for superiority of Ikal appears related with education and friendship where he wants to get a high education and he doesn’t want to loose his friends. The inferiority feelings appear when Ikal knows that he doesn’t want to live alone without his friend. Ikal is a good kid, with a good of sense and empathy. This character makes his inferior increase.

Social interest of Ikal is showed with the character of Ikal where Ikal is a good kid; everybody knows him because he is a smart kid and also kind and cares with his friends. The fictional finalism of Ikal appears related with two things, the first is a high education and the second is a better life and not primitive condition on his village. The style of life of Ikal appears because he is a kid from one of ancient races in Belitong and usually as a new commerce, so he has no bad life style for a kid, on his village there are only several modern people. He is a good kid where he always respects on the village rules and also his religion. In *The Rainbow Troops* there is no much creative self of Ikal. Ikal is a traditional kid so his creative effort runs only based on his instinct.

2. Pedagogical Implications

Pedagogical implications from the study of *The Rainbow Troops* novel by using striving for superiority of Adler theory, individual psychological approach, are:

- a. The research as a literature research can give a new knowledge as a reference in teaching English literature as a part of personality theory that is individual psychology by Alfred Adler.
- b. The research gives contribution about the fictional finalism within *The Rainbow Troops* based on individual psychological approach to literature teaching.
- c. The structure element of *The Rainbow Troops* novel based on narrative element be use us an example of literature teaching.
- d. While for literature teaching, the researcher can get a new knowledge in a relationship of literature and social life.

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