

**ANXIETY OF OLIVER TWIST'S IN CHARLES DICKENS'S
THE ADVENTURES OF OLIVER TWIST:
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department

by

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2009

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Everybody has a problem in their lives. There is no one who lives in the world without having a problem. A kind of problem can motivate a person to do something better, so they feel challenged. But, there are many existing problems that can make uncomfortable and anxious. Sometimes, people are capable of solving the problem rationally; that is they can face the problem in hurry and the problem creates anxiety.

Anxiety is a problem in the real world; it becomes a problem for people. Some people try to reduce the anxiety by escaping from the problem a moment and getting happiness from the environment. Anxiety is a state closely related to fear and, like fear it has motivation consequences.

Anxiety as one of psychoanalytic principles is part of psychoanalytic studies. An Australian Physician, Sigmund Freud, found the psychoanalytic theory of human being personality in the early 1900s. The term of psychoanalysis has fundamental assumption that the mental element of human is divided into two levels: The conscious (the rational) and the unconscious (the irrational). Then Freud describes three components of personality: there are *Id*, *ego*, and *superego*. In the concept of psychoanalytic theory, Anxiety is the most important element in psychoanalytic theory. In defining anxiety, Freud

emphasizes that is “a self effective, unpleasant state, accompanied by a physical sensation that warn the person against impending danger. The unpleasantness is often vague and hard to pinpoint, but the anxiety itself is always felt” (Freud, 1933/1964: 82-85). According to Hall (1985: 41), anxiety is a “ a key variable in almost all theories of personality. The point of conflict, which is an inevitable part of life, anxiety is often seen as a major component of personality dynamics”.

Literature psychoanalysis is an interesting subject to be presented by authors as the major theme of their literary works. One of the authors who propose the psychoanalytic study, especially anxiety as the problem of his literary work is Charles Dickens in his play *The Adventures of Oliver Twist*.

Charles Dickens was born on February 7th, 1812 in Landport division of Porsea, England. He was the second child and the oldest son of John and Elizabeth Dickens. During his childhood Charles Dickens lived in poverty. His fate became worse then since his father, John Dickens, was imprisoned for unsolved debt earthily, and Dickens who was twelve years old, went to work in a factory for making boot blacking in London. He bitterly resented having to leave school to do unskilled work from of this kind, feeling that he would never have the change of doing well in life. When he was fifteen, he became a clerk in a lawyer’s office. Dickens grew as an ambitions figure and he went on his own education, reading as much as he could he also taught himself shorthand and as the result he was soon as an expert shorthand writer. Such skill than led him become a reporter in the law contrary, taking down the political speeches for

newspaper. The real beginning of his career as an author came in 1836. At the time he wrote the *Pickwick Paper*, which he developed and became his first novel *Pickwick*. This was foundation of his career as an author until he succeeded creating a large number of novels: *Oliver Twist* (1837), *Nicolas Nickleby* (1838), *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1840), *He Battles Life* (1846), *Hard Times* (1854), *Little Dorrit* (1855), *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859) and so on. *Oliver Twist* is a part of historical novel, the background of the novel is Industrial Revolution. In the Industrial revolution the children must be strong, they must have many power to do their job, because in that era many children are worked although he must becomes a thief. They must strive to defend their lives, although they have not parents.

In this research the writer chooses the title “ANXIETY OF OLIVER TWIST IN CHARLES DICKENS’S *THE ADVENTURES OF OLIVER TWIST*: PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH”.

B. Previous Study

Oliver Twist is one of Charles Dickens best sellers and interesting novel to analyze. Santi Noviana (2003) studied *Struggle for Life Reflected in Charles Dickens’s Oliver Twist: An Individual Psychological Approach*. The other researcher was Retno Trimulyani she analyzed Nancy’s moral virtues as reflected in Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*. She did not analyze the major character, but she analyzed one of the minor characters, Nancy. She focuses on Nancy’s moral virtues as a woman. The researcher did not find any research

which analyzed the same novel but found another researcher who used the same approach. She was Nunik Transristy (2003), a student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, her thesis entitled *Anxiety of Harry Potter's in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets: A Psychoanalytic Approach*. Meanwhile, the present researcher analyzes this novel focusing on anxiety of Oliver Twist's by using psychoanalysis entitled *Anxiety of Oliver Twist's in Charles Dickens's The Adventures of Oliver Twist: A Psychoanalytic Approach*

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is how anxiety of Oliver influences him in Charles Dickens's *The Adventures of Oliver Twist*

D. Limitation of the Study

This study is limited to the Anxiety of Oliver Twist in the novel *Oliver Twist*. This study uses the theory of Psychoanalytic.

E. Objective of Study

The objectives of the study are follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the main character's (Oliver Twist) personality based on the psychoanalytic perspective.

F. Benefit of Study

The benefits of this study are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

Hopefully, the result of this research will give some benefits to the world of literature, beside development; particularly the literary study on Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to give deeper understanding about the novel especially from the aspect of psychoanalysis and gives input to other researchers who are interested in analyzing Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Research

In analyzing the novel, the researcher uses qualitative research. It is a type of research that does not need a statistic to collect the data.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The type of data is text, while the data sources are divided into two kinds:

a. Primary data source

The primary data source is the play itself; *The Adventures of Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens's.

b. Secondary data source

The secondary sources of data are books of literary criticism, and articles from the internet and movie.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collection in this study is library research. It consists of some steps, as follows:

- a. Reading the novel rapidly and tries to imagine to understand the novel
- b. Identifying the data
- c. Taking notes and underlining the important words, phrases of sentence, which are related to the study
- d. Classifying the data into some categories

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis of the research is descriptive analysis, it's used to describe the element of the play make some understanding to ward the play.

H. Paper Organization

This study consists of five chapters. It is started with the first chapter, introduction that comprises of the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. The second chapter presents the underlying theory and theoretical application. The third chapter presents the structural analysis of the play, which involves the character and characterization, plot, setting, theme, and style. The fourth chapter presents psychoanalytic analysis and its application in analyzing Charles Dickens's *The Adventures of Oliver Twist*. The fifth chapter deals with conclusion and suggestion for this study.