

**ANXIETY IN DANIEL DEFOE'S *ROBINSON CRUSOE*:
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In this life, there are many matters able to make us continually in the condition of fear. Fear of new circumstance, fear of other person who we do not know his or her name, even fear of ourselves. All of fears emerge because we, as human, experience a series of thinking process in our brain. A series of thinking process itself can be indicated as a form of adaptation into a new situation that is strange for individual because he or she has never been facing before. Well the problems that can cause fears are in past, present, or in future day. As long as we live in this world, we cannot avoid many problems emerge as the result of interaction with anyone, anytime, and anywhere. There is always anxiety in ourselves. For example if we are just leaving our office and then we are walking back to our home in an empty street, then there is no people at all there, while we are on foot, there must be a fear inside our mind, because there is no one near us it means we must protect and help ourselves.

The environments contain of dangerous areas and unsafe places, it demands humans to be more aware of surrounding circumstance where they live to defend their existence. Humans need to keep their interaction with other as a part of social creature. It can give more contributions in making an environment become safe or not. Environment has ability in

rising of pain, also increases and decreases the tension. The tension increases when people feel that they cannot take control the circumstances around them, so it bothers their comfort. And it becomes decrease when they feel that the environment gives them a safety and pleasure.

Hence, the individual reaction toward the threats of pain and mutilation from the outside which do not ready to overcome is becoming feared and making afraid. People live to get a good life and one of the indicators is that they can fulfill their needs and wishes. But their reaction toward the threats which do not ready to overcome will pervade their ego by the anxiety automatically.

Anxiety is one of the psychoanalytic principles, which has the main role in developing personality (Hall, 1980: 83). Anxiety deals with human psychology and it has relation with the literary work especially in a character of the novel.

The realities and imaginations of an author which are reflected in literary work are created by the author by witnessing the fact and by undergoing the reality and social life. Every author can deliberately convey his or her view toward society through his work. In the literary work, we can find some greatest names, novelist Daniel Defoe is not an exception. In 1719 when he was 59 years old, he would start to make long fiction prose masterpiece, presenting documentations (like good journalistic reports) without direct experience. Hence occurrence of real world, it is very artful simple but it is also full of awareness. It is depicted

in the story about an ordinary man in an extraordinary situation. Defoe is one of greatest English novelist that was born in the world. And *Robinson Crusoe* novel is one of the novels which he was written. Although pertained overdue man of letters write fiction in his life career. Finally around the age of sixty, the date of April 25th in that year the novel was published to the general.

It is inspired by real experience, *Robinson Crusoe* narrates a story concerning a single survivor from a sunken boat and he is casted away on Caribbean island. He stays to fight against all difficulties, shoulders distress alone almost during three decade, at the same time he also masters himself and his new bizarre world. But in his loneliness, he could find a new friend who is capable to make him awake from his afraid and despair. So that he could find his common world again.

In this case, the writer concerns with the novel of *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe. He can depict interesting situation, and the anxiety of major character in the novel. So that, the novel is interesting to be read and studied in order to get messages from it. Besides that, he also has some great works from his experiences. Then he writes *Moll Flanders*, *A Journal of the Plague Year*, and *Roxana*, followed shortly after.

From the illustration above, the researcher will analyze *Robinson Crusoe* novel using psychoanalytic approach. He will analyze the psychological condition of the major character, *Robinson Crusoe*, because

Defoe describes him as a man who has afraid and despair loneliness in the isolated island. It puts the emphasis on anxiety.

B. Literary Review

Based on researcher's observation, at least in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, the writer finds there is no research that has been conducted in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta to study Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* by using psychoanalytic approach.

However, during the observation, the researcher found another study of Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* entitled "comparison between the novel and movie version of Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*: structural analysis" done by Desy Wuryaningsih (2005). This research is about comparing the novel and movie version comprises character, setting, plot, point of view by using structural analysis. The researcher now uses the psychoanalytic approach to find the anxiety of this novel.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this paper is "How is anxiety reflected in *Robinson Crusoe*?"

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer will focus on analyzing the anxiety of *Robinson Crusoe* as the major character of the novel based on psychoanalytic approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of study are as follow:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the novel based on psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study is expected to give benefits as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To give a new contribution to the other literary research, especially for those who study popular novel.

2. Practical Benefit

To give information, better understanding, and additional knowledge to literary research especially dealing with the novel.

G. Research Method

To analyze the data found in this novel, the writer will use the qualitative method in this study. Therefore, The writer has some steps as follow:

1. Object of the Study

Object of the study is Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

a. Primary Source

The primary data are taken from the novel itself *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe.

b. Secondary Source

The secondary sources are some materials related to the data required, such as writer's biography, the data taken from official website, journal, etc.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The method used for collecting data is library research by collecting and selecting both primary and secondary data. The researcher will involve some required steps:

- a. Reading the novel to get the messages, and better understanding.
- b. Reading some related references to observe the theory, data and information.
- c. Making notes of important part in both primary and secondary data sources.
- d. Classifying the data into some categories.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing data, the writer employs “descriptive qualitative research” in which the writer collects the data, classifies the data and analyzes it, then the last is making conclusion from each data.

H. Research Paper Organization

The writer systematizes the research into five chapters as follow: the first chapter is introduction, covering the background of the study, the problem of study, literary review, limitation of study, the objective of study, benefit of study, research method and research paper organization. Second chapter presents the theory of psychoanalytic by Sigmund Freud. The researcher connects the study with Freud’s psychoanalytic theory, such as the psychoanalytic theory, system of personality, which consists of the id, ego and superego, anxiety and the last is application of it. Third chapter is research method using structural analysis of the novel, which includes the structural elements of character and characterization, plot, setting, point of view, style, theme, and the discussion, while the psychoanalytic analysis dealing with the problem of the major character is presented in fourth chapter. And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.