

**THE ROLE OF DREAM IN REVIVING THE RELIGIOUS AWARENESS IN  
DICKENS'S NOVEL *A CHRISTMAS CAROL AND OTHER HOLIDAY  
TREASURES* (1843):  
A JUNGIAN ANALYTIC PSYCHOLOGY**



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**ABSTRAK**

Karya tulis ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dinamika kesadaran keagamaan Scrooge berdasarkan novel dari Charles Dickens yang berjudul *A Christmas Carol and other Holiday Treasures*, untuk menyatakan usaha-usaha apa yang telah dilakukan orang-orang disekitar Scrooge dalam menyadarkan keagamaan Scrooge, dan untuk mengungkapkan peran mimpi dalam menyadarkan Scrooge dari pemahaman bahwa natal itu tidak berharga dan tidak ada yang perlu disyukuri ketika hari natal tiba dengan menggunakan teori *Jungian Analytic Psychology*. Karya ilmiah ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif. Peneliti mendapatkan data dari novel meliputi narasi, monolog dan dialog. Teknik pengumpulan data dengan cara membaca berulang-ulang, membuat catatan kecil, memahami kata-kata penting, menyusun data, menyeleksi data, dan membuat kesimpulan. Teknik data analisis adalah deskriptif interaktif yang terdiri dari tiga prosedur, yaitu: *data reduction, data display, and conclusion*. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan: 1) dinamika kesadaran keagamaan Scrooge mulai dari tidak adanya bimbingan tentang agama, kehilangan kepercayaan, dan kembalinya kepercayaan. 2) usaha-usaha yang dilakukan oleh orang sekitar Scrooge dalam menyadarkan keagamaan Scrooge, yang meliputi: keponakan Scrooge, kekasih Scrooge, dan Jacob Marley. 3) peran mimpi dalam menyadarkan keagamaan Scrooge yang mencakup mimpi sebagai pengingat, mimpi sebagai penyadar, dan mimpi sebagai petunjuk kejadian masa depan.

Kata kunci: dream, spirit, religious awareness, Jungian analytic psychology, Christmas carol

**ABSTRACT**

This research aims to analyze Scrooge's religious awareness dynamics based on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures*, to assert the efforts that have done by the people around Scrooge in reviving Scrooge's religious awareness, and to reveal the role of dream in reviving Scrooge from his consideration that Christmas is useless and there is nothing to be merry at Christmas by means of Jungian Analytic Psychology. The type of this research is descriptive qualitative. The researcher gets the data from the novel includes the narration, monologue, and dialogue. The techniques of collecting the data are

reading the data repeatedly, taking notes, underlying the important words, arranging the data, selecting the data, and drawing conclusion. The technique of data analysis is descriptive interactive which comprises three procedures, namely: data reduction, data display, and conclusion. The results of this research show: 1) the Scrooge's religious dynamics starts with unguided faith, lost of faith and regained faith. 2) the efforts of the people around Scrooge in reviving Scrooge's religious awareness are provided by Scrooge's nephew, Scrooge's girlfriend, and Jacob Marley. 3) the role of dream in reviving Scrooge's religious awareness are dream as reminder, dream as enlightenment, and dream as foreseeing.

Keyword: dream, spirit, religious awareness, Jungian analytic psychology, Christmas carol

## INTRODUCTION

*A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures* is a recommended novel to be read because it has a great moral value. It tells about human's life in the real world. Charles Dickens writes this novel. He is a great writer with more than a dozen novels. He serves this story by using perfect analogy so we can receive in our perception. The words chosen make the reader understand what the writer is exactly going to say.

*A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures* was published almost two centuries ago. This novel tells about the human's life that may still exist in this real world. It is about wealth, belief, arrogant, greedy, position, and miracle. *A Christmas Carol* describes the life of an arrogant rude man, Scrooge, the one who considers that a Christmas celebration is useless. He says that celebrating Christmas just wasting time, money, and has no use. There is nothing to thank. He has different personality from other men. If everybody has an analogy in weather, for his or her personality, then none for Scrooge. He is a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone. No blowing wind is chilly enough for him. Even his nephew cannot influence him to celebrate the Christmas or at least to realize the meaning of Christmas Eve. Something should be realized that everything must be thankful in the Christmas, until the day Jacob Marley comes after his death. He is the Scrooge's partner for long time ago. There will be three spirits haunting him. They are the spirit of the past, the present, and the future. These three spirits guide Scrooge based on theirs. Scrooge meets many events

he had passed or will happen. Those events have their own impact to Scrooge. In the end of the novel, Scrooge becomes the one who respects Christmas the most.

Before I write this paper, several writers have analyzed about Dickens' novel. There is no same with previous journal because it mostly compares Dickens' novel with another novel. Those several journals are: Burleson's *Dicken's A Christmas Carol* (1992), Audrey Jaffe's *Spectacular Sympathy: Visuality And Ideology In Dicken's A Christmas Carol* (1994), Lee Erickson's *The Primitive Keynianism Of Dicken's A Christmas Carol* (1997), Michael Timko's *Why Dickens Wrote A Christmas Carol* (2001), Robert Giddings' *Scrooge Blues and Not So Tiny Tim* (2003), *Andrienne Linton's A Christmas Carol Revisited – Nursing's Past, Present, and Future* (2005), Saint-Amour's *Christmas yet to Come: Hospitality, Futurity, The Carol, and The Death* (2007), Paul Graham's *A Christmas Carol as Told by Jacob Marley* (2010), and the last is Ayla Oguz's *Practicing Interdisciplinarity: A Christmas Carol* (2014).

In this paper, I explain this novel by using Jungian analytic psychology. This theory proposed by Carl Gustav Jung. I do choose this theory among several theories about dream because this is the most appropriate one to analyze *A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures*. Jung has stated two functions: (1) to balance the dreamer's psyche, (2) to appoint prospective image the future. In this little paper, I discuss Dickens' novel *A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures* by focusing to the second function of Jung's theory of dream.

### **Object of the Study**

The object of this study is divided into two, formal object and material object. The formal object is the role of dream in reviving someone's religious awareness. The material object is a novel written by Charles Dickens *A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures*. This novel was published in December 1843. It reflects human's life that may still exist in this real world. This novel is called *the collection of short story*. There are five chapters in this novel. Those are *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *The Chimes* (1844), *The Cricket on the Hearth* (1845), *The Battle of Life*

(1846), and *The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain* (1848). Yet, in this paper will focus on the first chapter of the novel, *A Christmas Carol*.

### **The Nature of Dream**

Dream in its existence, has many definitions in meaning. In this research, there are five definitions of dreams. First, the definition of dream is adopted from Javanese culture that believes dream as a gift from God to deliver God's messages. In Java, especially Centra Java, there are three kinds of dream namely *titiyoni*, *gondoyoni*, and *puspotajem*. *Titiyoni* sees a dream as a god's gift to entertain a dreamer only. This kind of dream usually happens in the morning, afternoon, and evening. *Gondoyoni* is a dream that may be occurred in the real world or not. It usually comes in the middle afternoon and midnight. *Puspotajem* is a dream that will be come in the real world and it is possible to be a sign or foreboding. It usually occurs in the dawn, or lesser three o'clock. We should pay attention if we got such a dream in that time. We must remember what our dream was, and prove the truth in the real world.

The second definition comes from Oxford dictionary fifth edition. Dream based on Oxford dictionary has five definitions; (1) a sequence of scenes and feelings occurring in the mind during sleep, (2) a state of mind in which the things happening around one do not seem real, (3) an ambition or ideal, especially it is not very realistic, and (5) a beautiful or wonderful person or thing.

Third, Aristotle defines dream as a psychic activity of a sleeper. It is not god-sent, but demonic origin. This belief was different from his teacher, Plato who thought that dream is an inspiration of divine origin. True and valuable dream gives the dreamer a warning, or to foretell what will happen in the future, so can lead the dreamer from destruction. He believed that dream was related to supernatural beings in who believed and brought inspirations from god and demons (Papachristou, 2014 :1).

The next, dream in Freud's theory is a series of abnormal psychic formation. He believes that dream just the impact of hysterical phobias, the obsession and hallucination. It comes from the past experience of the dreamer that is reproduced or remembered in the dream, at least may be accepted as an unquestionable fact. Freud claims that dream show us about the future may be. He states that dreams divided into classes. First class is believed that the present or the past influences dreams. Second class, dreams decide the future. Freud concludes dreams as (1) direct prophecies received in the dream, (2) the foretelling of future events, and (3) a symbolic dreams that need any interpretation (Freud. 1900:4).

The last but not least, dream in Jung's perspective is a natural expression of the certain condition of the dreamer's mental world. He pushed Freud's statement that dreams intentionally disguise their meaning. Jung claimed that the nature of dreams is to present, "a spontaneous self-portrayal, in symbolic form, of the actual situation in the unconscious" (Jung, 1967, vol.8, par.505). He believed that dreams speak in a certain language to express unconscious mind. We have difficulties to understand dreams, because its language is different from conscious language. Jung has stated that dream has two functions: (1) to balance the dreamer's psyche, (2) to appoint prospective image of the future. Jung agrees with Freud that dream may take past experience, but he argues that dream can predict the future. It gives suggestion what may happen, what possibilities the future may hold (Jung, 1964:18).

## **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Religious Awareness Dynamics**

Everybody changes. The change may be in economy, health, religion, or any other field. Sooner or later, the change goes to influence his or her whole life. The entire creature changes, whether he or she becomes better or worse. Every change has its own dynamics. It is also true to the main character in Dickens' novel *A Christmas Carol and Other Holiday Treasures*, Scrooge has his own religious awareness dynamics. Those dynamics are:

## **1. Unguided Faith**

Unguided faith starts when Scrooge was still as a little boy. Poor little Scrooge does not understand what he should do in Christmas night. He does not even know what is Christmas. He is a solitary child who was avoided by his friends. He thinks that he is the poorest child in his environment. Little Scrooge who is averted by his friends, walks in a mansion of dull red brick, with a little weathercock-surmounted cupola, on the roof and a bell hanging in it. Finally, this poor boy or we can call little Scrooge, sits on the floor all alone and reads near a feeble fire.

Scrooge has nobody who can understand his feeling. No one cares him but his little sister. His little sister is the one who he loves the most. He is very kind to her. He talks calmly with lovely words. His sister is very cheerful little girl. The only one who makes Scrooge brave to face this tough world. Scrooge loves his little sister very much (26).

In one Christmas, his little sister, the one who he loves the most has died. There is no part describing how is Scrooge's little sister died, but we can understand how is Scrooge's feeling at that time. He feels that all the sufferings go to him. He is brimful of sadness. His pain becomes harder when he remembers how his little sister was (27).

## **2. Lost of Faith**

Scrooge gets older. The day when he lost his sister, he became another person. His personality is totally different. He became a man out of his mind. His heart and soul became harder. There was no more warmth or kindness. Scrooge totally becomes the new strangest one (29).

It seems like losing his little sister is not enough, Scrooge losses his girlfriend. One thing makes Scrooge more different is after his partner's death, Jacob Marley. Scrooge and Marley are partners for many years. Scrooge is his sole executor, his sole administrator, his sole assign, his sole residuary legatee, his sole friend, and sole mourner. The day when Marley

died, especially after the funeral, Scrooge sat by the side of a fair young girl in a mourning-dress, in whose eyes there were tears. She told that Scrooge became a stranger one. He was not Scrooge in the past. He became new Scrooge! She also said that Marley's death had no matter to him, because the one and only thing in Scrooge's mind was wealth.

"It matters little," she said, softly. "To you, very little. Another idol has displaced me; and if it can cheer and comfort you in time to come, as I would have tried to do, I have no just cause to grieve."

"What Idol has displaced you?" he rejoined.

"A golden one." (p.31)

The conversation between Scrooge and a fair young lady is little bit crash. By seeing the explanation above, absolutely there are many questions burning up to our head. Who is a fair young lady? What is the relationship between Scrooge and her? In my mind, this fair young lady is Scrooge's special girl or we can call her as Scrooge's girlfriend. She wants to release Scrooge because she thinks that she has no use anymore in standing right by Scrooge's side. Scrooge does not need her anymore because he already has everything. Scrooge never asks her to release him, but she acts like that because she is perforced. She feels not suitable to accompany Scrooge anymore. She decides to release Scrooge even Scrooge never asks her (31).

### **3. Regained Faith**

Scrooge becomes the new one who cares the others the most. He keeps Christmas in his heart and mind. He is better than his word. He is the merriest one in this world. He becomes a good friend, a good master, a good old man, a good old city known, and any other good old city, town, in the good old world. He never hurt people's feeling. He honors everyone no

matter how old they are. He keeps his warm words to everybody no matter how poor they are. He exactly becomes a great Scrooge (74).

## **B. The Efforts**

### **1. Scrooge's Nephew**

In Scrooge's life, people do care of him. They feel poor to him because he has everything but there is no Christmas in his heart. He did wrong since everyone he had loved leaving him one by one. He does not realize in this crowded world, there are many people who care of him. One of those people is Scrooge's nephew. He always reminds his uncle whenever Christmas comes. He expresses it cheerfully.

“A merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!” cried a cheerful voice. (p.5)

Even when Scrooge rejects his greeting, he never despairs. His intention to revive Scrooge is pure. He still believes that Scrooge may remember or at least still believing in Christmas.

“Christmas a humbug, uncle!” said Scrooge's nephew. “You don't mean that, I am sure?” (p.5)

### **2. Scrooge's Girlfriend**

The next person who cares of Scrooge is his girlfriend. Belle is the name of that girl. Belle is the one who loved by Scrooge the most. Nevertheless, in the end, especially in the Marley's funeral, their relationship has ended. Belle releases Scrooge because he becomes another strangest man.

“Our contract is an old one. It was made when we were both poor and content to be so, until, in good season, we could improve our worldly

fortune by our patient industry. You are changed. When it was made, you were another man.” (p.31)

She thinks that Scrooge does not love her anymore because the one in Scrooge’s mind is wealth. He has no time to think about his girl. She thinks that she has abandoned by Scrooge. Her hopes have broken since Scrooge prefer chooses his business then her (31).

On the day when Marley has died, in one Christmas, they break their promises and relationship. Belle chooses to release Scrooge in deep expectation he will sacrifice on his love. She wants him back to the same Scrooge like years before. However, Scrooge does not realize that what he has done is wrong. The last, Belle releases Scrooge, indeed. She feels that she has failed in reviving Scrooge’s religious awareness (31).

### **3. Jacob Marley**

Marley’s Ghost immediately told what he was wanted to warn. He asked Scrooge to change and escaped from the fate like Marley’s Ghost had. He wanted Scrooge to change his manner, attitude and his way to honor another people. Marley’s Ghost wished Scrooge could change his perception about Christmas since he still had a chance.

“That is no light part of my penance,” pursued the Ghost. “I am here to-night to warn you, that you have yet a chance and hope of escaping my fate. A chance and hope of my procuring, Ebenezer.” (p.17)

## **C. The Role of Dream**

### **1. Dream as Reminder**

First dream has function to be a reminder. When it comes, Scrooge makes sure that it is really the first of three spirits had told by Marley’s Ghost. He asks about who the first spirit is. The first spirit replies that it is

the Ghost of Christmas past, especially Scrooge's past (22). The first spirit asks Scrooge to walk with him. It wants to foretell Scrooge about everything. It will remind Scrooge about his past (23).

## **2. Dream as Enlightenment**

After having the first dream, Scrooge realized that what had told by Marley's Ghost is right. He has understood that the Ghost comes to lead him good. The second Ghost comes to enlighten Scrooge's life. The Ghost asks him to touch its robe because it wants to show Scrooge a right way (37). They walk around the city street on a Christmas morning. They arrive in the steeples, church and chapel. Scrooge wonders why someone cares and gives food to poor men freely (39-40).

The Ghost explains that in this crowded world, not everybody can eat in their whole life three times a day. There is no wrong if we can share our wealth, happiness, and charity to another people especially the poorest one (40).

## **3. Dream as Foreseeing**

Nevertheless, the last Spirit is different from the two previous Spirits. It will not speak even a word. It gives some instructions to Scrooge by pointing with its hand or making something contracting for an instant (55). The third Ghost comes to show Scrooge what will happen in the future. It shows how the end of Scrooge's life. It tells that in the Christmas yet to come, Scrooge will die and nobody cares. This dream makes Scrooge scare and finally realize that what he has done is wrong. He makes a promise to keep Christmas in his heart, soul and never forget it. He will honor everyone and never underestimate them. He has promised not to hurt people's heart anymore. This dream has most important part in reviving Scrooge religious awareness.

## **DISCUSSION**

The most appropriate theory for Dickens' novel is Jungian analytic psychology by Carl Gustav Jung. This theory has two classes. Jung has stated that dream has two functions: (1) to balance the dreamer's psyche, (2) to appoint prospective image of the future. This first class or function of dream is same as Javanese theory of dream and Freud's interpretation of dream that has a function to entertain the dreamer only. The second is the difference from the theories before. Jung's second theory of dream believes that dream is a god-sent that given to the dreamer in such purpose. God has his own purpose in sending the dreamer a dream. Those purposes can be a warn, inspiration, or miracle that absolutely very useful to human's sustainability in the future. This novel is suitable with the second class of Jungian analytic psychology because it believes in God, spirit or ghost, and religious. In addition, Jungian analytic psychology has no certain time in dreaming.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on those explanations, we can conclude that several things influence Scrooge's religious awareness. Those things are the efforts of Scrooge's nephew, Scrooge's girlfriend, Jacob Marley, and the three dreams that is haunted by three Spirits. As we know that for the first time, Scrooge is the one who does not care with Christmas. In his mind, Christmas is useless. There is nothing to be thankful in this world. However, everything has changed. The first Spirit comes in the night after Jacob Marley's Ghost come. It guides Scrooge into his past event when he was a little boy. The Ghost shows him the Christmas in years ago. The second Spirit guides him in the present Christmas. It reminds him about his love, Bella, the one who he loves the most leaves him because of his fault. He also loses his business partner, Jacob Marley. He has nothing in this world but wealth. However, he never felt happy with his wealth. He is the richest one in his town, but he seems unhappy. The last Spirit comes in the third night. It tells Scrooge about the Christmas yet to come. The Spirit shows him about Bob Cratchit's family that keeps Christmas in their mind

even they are poor. They can enjoy and praise every moment they have. Everything has done should be praised. They keep their laugh and happiness in their simplicity. In this part, Scrooge also reminded that in the end of his life, he will die with no one cares.

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