

**FEAR REFLECTED IN JOHN GREEN'S THE FAULT
IN OUR STARS (2012): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



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in English Department

by:

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APPROVAL

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ACCEPTANCE

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Hence, later, if it is proven that there are some untrue statements in this testimony, I will hold fully responsible.

Surakarta, 28 December 2016

The researcher,



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FEAR REFLECTED IN JOHN GREEN'S THE FAULT IN OUR STARS

(2012):

A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan tentang rasa takut Hazel Grace Lancaster dan Augustus Waters yang menjalani hidup dengan penyakit kanker dalam novel *The Fault in Our Stars* karya John Green. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis novel berdasarkan teori pendekatan psikoanalitik. Penulis menggunakan dua sumber data: primer dan sekunder. Penelitian ini menggunakan novel *The Fault in Our Stars* karya John Green sebagai sumber data primer. Data sekunder adalah data pendukung yang diambil dari buku-buku kesastraan, dan beberapa artikel yang berhubungan dengan novel. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian deskriptif kualitatif yang dilakukan di bawah kerangka Teori Psikoanalitik. Berdasarkan analisis, penulis memperoleh hasil akhir. Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa permasalahan tokoh utama adalah tentang rasa takutnya. Novel ini bercerita tentang rasa takut Hazel Grace Lancaster dan Augustus Waters setelah mereka didiagnosa menderita kanker di usia yang tergolong masih muda. Mereka menjalani hari-hari mereka dengan rasa takut tentang kematian, rasa sakit, dan dilupakan selamanya. Mereka berusaha mencari cara bagaimana mengatasi rasa takut mereka.

Kata Kunci: *The Fault in Our Stars*, rasa takut, dilupakan selamanya, John Green, teori pendekatan psikoanalitik.

Abstract

This research intends to describe about Hazel Grace Lancaster's dan Augustus Waters's fear. The objective of this study is to analyze this novel based on the Individual Psychoanalytic Approach. The researcher used two data sources: primary data and secondary data. The primary data source of the study is *The Fault in Our Stars* novel by John Green. Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, and some articles related to the novel. The secondary data of the study are also taken from any information related to the novel. The method of data collection is the researcher employs the descriptive qualitative research based on Psychoanalytic Theory. Based on the analysis, the reseacher gets some conclusions. This research shows that the problem by the major characters is their fear. This novel tells about Hazel Grace Lancaster's and Augustus Waters's fear after they were diagnosed with

cancer at the very young ages. They live out their days with the fear of death, pain, and oblivion. They were trying to figure out how to overcome their fear.

Keywords: *The Fault in Our Stars*, fear, oblivion, John Green, psychoanalytic theory.

1. INTRODUCTION

In *Emotion-Focused Cognitive Therapy*, the basic emotions that have been most widely agreed upon and included in almost all modern lists of basic emotions are the five emotions. There are sadness, happiness, anger, fear, and disgust. Sadness is an emotion to express loss or failure (actual or possible) of valued role or goal. Happiness is an emotion to express successful move towards or completion of a valued role or goal. Anger defined as an emotion that blocking or frustration of a role goal through perceived agent. Fear defined as physical or social threat to self or valued role or goal. Disgust defined as a person, object or idea repulsive to the self, and to valued roles and goals (Power, 2010: 26).

The story of this novel including people who had diagnosed by having chronic cancer. Immediately after a chronic disease is diagnosed, a patient can be in a state of crisis marked by physical, social, and psychological disequilibrium. Many chronic diseases affect all aspects of a patient's life. As in acute diseases, there is a temporary first phase when all life activities are disrupted. Chronic disease, however, may also carry the need to make intermittent or permanent changes in physical, vocational, and social activities. In addition, people with chronic illnesses must integrate the patient role into their lives psychologically if they are to adapt to their disorders.

Following the diagnosis of a chronic illness, in the book *Health Psychology* anxiety is common. Many patients become overwhelmed by the potential changes in their lives and, in some cases, by the prospect of death. Anxiety levels are especially high when people are waiting for the results, receiving diagnoses, awaiting invasive medical procedures, and anticipating or experiencing adverse side effects of treatment (Taylor, 2012: 262).

The Fault in Our Stars main characters in the novel are forced to confront death in a way that the young and healthy are not. Although everyone will eventually die, as Hazel points out in Support Group, death's immediacy to the terminally ill means they can't avoid considering what comes after death, and the potential that all that's waiting for them is oblivion. It's a very present fear for Hazel and particularly for Augustus, and in fact it's the first thing they share when they meet at Support Group. Augustus, in response to Patrick's question about what he fears, replies right away with "oblivion," and Hazel, who rarely ever speaks in the group, picks up immediately. She points out that everyone will, some day, die which means everything humanity has ever built could all be for naught, and that just as there was a time before organisms experienced consciousness, there will be a time after as well. She says if the thought is disturbing one should just ignore it, but her tone implies that it's

something that can't be ignored, at least not forever. What the novel ultimately suggests is that one person's death doesn't consign their significance and relationships to oblivion, and that what makes our lives matter are the relationships we form.

The reasons why writer takes this title are first is the author of the novel is very attractive and popular, it is also very weighted with emphasis on fear. Second, because there are many cancer patients living with fear can cause humans to have broader insights. Third, we can also reduce stress and daily boring activities by following an issue about fear. Fourth, we will also have a soul that is more type and cause of fear in life. The last reason is John Green describes the character, setting, plot, style, and point of view in *The Fault in Our Stars* clearly.

The problem statement of the study will focus on the fear in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel. The objective of the study is to analyze the fear reflected in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* based on a Psychoanalytic Approach.

The first research of *The Fault in Our Stars* was written by Matthew I. Johnson on 2014 from University of Wyoming with the title "*Young Adult Novels About Death and Dying: Arguments for Reading About Terminal Illness and Suicide*". It investigated about how quality Young Adult literature can have a positive impact in opening a discussion about death and suicide with adolescents. And the second reasearch was written by Rina Mar'atus Sholihah on 2016 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "*Patience Reflected In John Green's The Fault In Our Stars (2012) Novel: An Individual Psychological Approach*". The major of the study is patience. The objective of the study is to analyze patience reflected in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* based on the structural element and analyze based an individual psychological approach. And the next research was conducted by Wheny Wulandari on 2016 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "*Living With Cancer Reflected In John Green's The Fault In Our Stars (2012): A Humanistic Psychology Approach*". The objectives of the study are to know the first response of every character when they know they get cancer, how the characters live with cancer, and the writer concerns about the cancer part based on humanistic psychological approach by Carl Rogers.

There are some journals of the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*, the first journal wrote by Deril Sofia Nanda on 2015 from English Department of STAIN Kediri with the title "*Implicature in John Green's The Fault of Our Stars*" that discussed about discourses on revealing meanings in utterances are widely discussed in some fields of linguistics, semantics, presupposition, and implicature. And the second journal wrote by Trevor Stammers on 2013 from The British Journal of General Practice formerly published as the journal of Royal College of General Practitioners with the title "*The Fault in Our Stars John Green*" that discussed about how the humanities can reach deeply into essential parts of medical education that the comparative objectivity of science cannot.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

In analyzing *The Fault in Our Stars* novel by John Green (2012), researcher use qualitative research. The research does not use enumeration and calculation. The researcher classifies her research into qualitative research because the research does not need a statistic data to analyze and explore the facts. Type of data in this research is textual data. It consists of word, phrase, and sentences. The data sources consist of two categories they are primary data source and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel itself. The secondary data source is about behaviorist and all relevant materials in the novel. The techniques of data collection the writer used are reading and understanding *The Fault in Our Stars* novel as well as the secondary data source from the other books, identifying data that can be analyzed, classifying data into some categories, determining the theory of literature which is relevant for analyzing the data, and searching the other reference that can be used to analyze data. The object of the study is to analyze the fear reflected in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel (2012) with a psychoanalytic approach. The analysis is begun from the structural analysis of the work and finally the individual psychological analysis of the literary works. The steps to analyze the data are as follows: first, analyzing the data based on its structural elements, and the second, analyzing the data based on psychoanalytic analysis.

3. RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Finding

The analysis *The Fault in Our Stars* novel is based on six basic concept of individual psychological approach.

a. Structural Personality

In *The Fault in Our Stars* novel has major characters of the novel. There are three kind of personality based on Sigmund Freud consist the id, ego, and superego and the discussion below show id, ego, and superego.

1. The id

The id the only component of personality is present from birth. This aspect personality is entirely unconscious and includes of instinctive and primitive behaviors. Hjelle and Ziegler (1992:88) that id refers exclusive to primitively instinctive aspect of personality.

2. The Ego

The ego is the component of the personality that is responsible for dealing with reality. Hall and Lindzey (1981:37) that the ego is operated by reality principle that means gratification of instinct is delayed until an optimum time the human being can get most pleasure with the least of unpleasant consequences.

3. The Superego

The Superego is the last component of personality system, the aspect of personality that holds all of our internalized moral standards and ideals that we acquire from both parents and society our sense of right and wrong. The Superego operates on the morality principle and motivates us go behave in a socially responsible and acceptable manner. The Superego may function on a very primitive level, being relatively incapable of reality testing that incapable of modifying its action depending on circumstances (Pervin, 1984:76)

b. Fear

The story of this novel was including people who diagnosed for having chronic cancer. Immediately after a chronic disease is diagnosed, a patient can be in a state of crisis marked by physical, social, and psychological disequilibrium. Many chronic diseases affect all aspects of a patient's life. As in acute diseases, there is a temporary first phase when all life activities are disrupted. Chronic disease, however, may also carry the need to make intermittent or permanent changes in physical, vocational, and social activities. In addition, people with chronic illnesses must integrate the patient role into their lives psychologically if they are to adapt to their disorders.

Following the diagnosis of a chronic illness, in the book *Health Psychology* anxiety is common. Many patients become overwhelmed by the potential changes in their lives and, in some cases, by the prospect of death. Anxiety levels are especially high when people are waiting for the results, receiving diagnoses, awaiting invasive medical procedures, and anticipating or experiencing adverse side effects of treatment (Taylor, 2012: 262).

From the explanation above, we can see that the structural elements in the novel are interrelated to each other from a whole unity that cannot be separated one from other.

3.2 Discussion

The researcher draws some research findings as follows. After analyzing the major characters of personality, the researcher concludes that three elements of personality are important to build the major characters mental condition consist of id, ego, and superego. This discussion based on psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud. In the novel, there are a lot conflicts faced by characters that described by John Green.

Hazel Grace Lancaster, a 16 year old girl, was diagnosed with lung cancer at the age of 13. Hazel often worried about her remaining time or her chance of live that less than others. And that time couldn't be predictable and the possible of death may occurred anytime. She told Augustus a story about her treatment since she was young. And she once had thought that she did not want to get up again. She also worried about the possibility of pain that suddenly came and made her life in danger. As a

teenager who has cancer, she couldn't avoid the thought that she would die soon. But Hazel had a father and mother who loved her very much and always supported her.

She joined a Support Group in church and had a friend named Isaac who had eye cancer. At that time, Isaac planned to operate his eyes to remove his cancer. And if it possible, Hazel wanted to change her lung cancer into eye cancer, so at least she will be blind not die. Hazel also met with Augustus Waters, a friend of Isaac. A 17 year old boy with Osteosarcoma who has fear of oblivion and wanted to do something heroic before he died. The fear that appeared very early in this novel was Augustus's fear of oblivion. Augustus on his Support Group's introduction said that he had a fear of oblivion.

And when Hazel described herself as a grenade that will explode one day, she also realized she would hurt Augustus someday. She worried that being with Augustus until that time was not going to change the fact that one day she would hurt him. She tried to keep a distance with Augustus. Then Hazel felt very scared and thought that she was a burden to her parents. She also felt she was the source of her parent's sadness. Hazel's first fear in the novel came out when she described herself as a grenade that sometime will explode and hurting persons around her. She felt that after reading Caroline Mathers's condolence messages, Augustus's ex-girlfriend, who died of brain cancer. Most of them said that everyone who knew her mourning his left. She was worried if the peoples around her would get hurt, especially her parents and Augustus. She also thought that she will die someday. However, she then learned that her parents do not feel like that. By hearing their words, she was decided that she had to be strong because there are her parents who will always support her decision. And also Augustus who will always loves her. Hazel was also finally decided to let Augustus with her until he died. She felt sure after Augustus assured her that with keeping him to stay away will not decrease his affection towards her.

Augustus and Hazel both loved to read, end up liking an author named Peter Van Houten. One day, they got an e-mail from Van Houten's assistant that they were finally given an opportunity to meet him directly in Amsterdam. Although in fact Augustus and Hazel's trip to Amsterdam faced many obstacles, but it was not impossible. Dr. Maria brought a miracle. She always tried to convince the doctors and her parents that Hazel also need to enjoy her life this time. But another fear came after their trip from Amsterdam. Augustus got the fact that his cancer returned to attack his body again. At one point, he began to give up on his condition and beginning to feel despair. Hazel also felt worry when Augustus's cancer get worsen Augustus and hospitalized in the ER. She was worried and thought about the possibility of losing the last chance to see him and say goodbye when she was not with him. That made Hazel felt about the worry of losing the loved ones and understand the feelings of her parents.

4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the whole of *The Fault in Our Stars* novel in detail and analyzing all the facts of the main character's fear, the researcher comes to the conclusion as follows: first, the structural analysis of *The Fault in Our Stars* novel involves the character and characterization, where it consist of Hazel Grace Lancaster and Augustus Waters as a major character and the minor characters are Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster, Isaac, Kaitlyn, Patrick, Peter Van Houten, Lidewij Vliegthart, Dr. Maria, and Caroline Mathers. The themes of this novel are the main characters' the main characters' effort in facing fear also physical and emotional pain. Setting in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel is distinguished into two; setting of time and setting of place. In this novel John Green uses traditional plots. The novel of *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green as a main instrument uses the first person point of view.

Secondly, based on the psychological analysis, Sigmund Freud's theory of psychoanalytic to analyze Hazel Grace Lancaster and Augustus Waters personality, the researcher can analyze the major character, theory related of their fear. The researcher analyzed Hazel and Augustus id, ego, and superego. Hazel Grace Lancaster had a fear of hurting people around her and Augustus Waters had a fear of oblivion. In the id analysis Hazel described as a young girl with lungs cancer and Augustus as a young boy with Osteosarcoma. Hazel starts to fear about the fact that she will die sooner. Hazel started to describe herself as a grenade that sometime will explode and hurting persons around her and Augustus wanted to do something heroic before he die as an ego analysis. And this explanation matches with Sigmund Freud's theory when he says that the ego sometimes is.

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