

**FOUR AS A SURVIVOR OF CHILD ABUSE REFLECTED IN
VERONICA ROTH'S DIVERGENT (2011): PSYCHOANALYTIC
APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
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Surakarta, 11th January, 2018

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ABSTRAK

Kajian ini mengenai Four sebagai Seorang yang berhasil bertahan dari perilaku kasar terhadap anak yang digambarkan di Novel Divergent yang ditulis oleh Veronica Roth (2011), yang dianalisis menggunakan pendekatan psikoanalitik. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi karakteristik-karakteristik Four sebagai orang yang berhasil bertahan. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif. Data utama dari penelitian ini adalah Novel Divergent yang ditulis oleh Veronica Roth, lalu Data kedua dari penelitian ini adalah sumber-sumber lain yang terkait dengan penelitian ini seperti: sumber internet, atau buku-buku yang mendukung penelitian ini. Peneliti menggambarkan tiga kesimpulan dari penelitian ini. Pertama, karakteristik – karakteristik pada Four sebagai orang yang berhasil bertahan pada data yakni: penyesuaian, melihat dibalik kesalahan, intuisi (gerak hati), kemampuan untuk tenang, bukanlah seorang optimis dari seorang pessimis, kemauan untuk bertahan. Kedua, kekerasan pada anak yang dialami four yakni kekerasan fisik dan hukuman hukuman sewaktu kecil. Ketiga, alasan-alasan Veronica memberikan isu “orang yang berhasil bertahan” dan “kekerasan pada anak” adalah memberikan pesan kepada orang tua dan anak tentang hubungan.

Kata Kunci: Orang yang Berhasil Bertahan, kekerasan pada anak, psikoanalitik.

ABSTRACT

This study is about Four as A Survivor of Child Abuse Reflected in Veronica Roth's Divergent (2011), which is analyzed by using Psychoanalytic approach. The objectives of the study are to identify characteristics of Four as a Survivor, Child abuse which has been experienced by Four and the reasons of Veronica Roth uses the survivor and child abuse issue. This research belongs to qualitative research. The primary data of this research is Divergent novel by Veronica Roth, while the secondary data of this research is other sources related to the study, such as: virtual sources and other printed materials that support this research. The researcher draws three conclusions in this research. First, the characteristics of Four as Survivor which are found in the novel are Adaptability, Looking beyond the Mistake, Ability to Stay Calm, Intuition, Not as an optimist of a pessimist, Will to Survive. Second, Child Abuse which are experienced by Four are physical abuse and childhood punishments. Third, the reasons of Veronica Roth gives survivor and child abuse issues is giving the message to parent and child about the relationship.

Keywords: Survivor, Child Abuse, Psychoanalytic.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the *Divergent* novel, Veronica Roth wrote *Divergent* tells about Beatrice Prior lives in Chicago future version. It is divided into five distinct factions. It has different each virtue for each faction: Dauntless is for brave people, Erudite for smart people who loves knowledge, Abnegation is for pro-self-sacrifice, Amity loves friendship and peace, and Candor is for honest people. Mostly it tells about Beatrice's life. She grew up in Abnegation family but after she reached 16, she chose to join other faction named Dauntless. Whereas she was hiding her secret that she was a Divergent who fixed on several criteria of factions. In Dauntless she still had to compete in order to she could be a permanent member of Dauntless. On there faction, she met the Leader of Dauntless named Four. At the first, Four was not friendly to the other member of Dauntless but after meeting Beatrice (Tris), he got change little by little. He helped and trained Tris in order that she could be success on every challenges or fights that Dauntless gave. Along the way, Tris found that Four had a bad past with his father named Marcus, the leader of Abnegation. Tris knew it from simulation test that she did together with Four, so she could know that the scary thing for Four was his father. It was because Marcus abused toward Four when he was still child. In the effort of Erudite overthrew Abnegation's government, Four always helped Tris in every difficulties that Tris faced (Divergent Novel, 2012).

The researcher personally thinks that *Divergent novel* is an amazing novel to analyze, because there is no one who has analyzed this novel. But, there are some researchers using other theory in their analysis: The first research was written by Nesreen Abdallah Eldoliefy in 2015 from North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science with title "Societies of Control in Young Adult Literature: The Panoptic World of Veronica Roth's Trilogy *Divergent*". On that research, Nesreen Abdallah Eldoliefy concerned about Foucault's concept of panopticism to demonstrate the containing nature of the trilogy.

The second research was delivered Ajeng Sito Larasati in 2016 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "Pessimistic View of the

Future of Genetic Engineering in Veronica's Roth Divergent Trilogy Novel (2011-2013) : A Sociological Approach". On that research, the researcher focuses on the Nervousness and the Anxiety that the Society will feel if the genetic engineering or other chemical practices is still doing toward human being in *Divergent* novel.

The third research was written by Nur Adnin Maulida in 2016 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "The Journey to Find Personal Identity of Tris in Divergent Novel by Veronica Roth (2011): An Individual Psychological". In this research, the researcher tried to analyze the novel to find the personal identity that deals with fictional finalism, striving for superiority, inferiority feeling, style of live, social interest and creative power using individual psychological in *Divergent* novel.

The fourth research was conducted by Zahrul Anam in 2016 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "Social Discrimination reflected in Veronica Roth's Divergent (2011) A Marxist Theory". In this research, the researcher tried to find dialectical, historical, class struggle, alienation, revolution, and social discrimination that is revealed in *Divergent* novel.

The fifth research was conducted by Irfan Rejiansyah in 2017 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "Rebellion reflected in Veronica Roth's Divergent (2011): A Marxist Theory". In this research, Rejiansyah tried to find dialectical, historical, class struggle, alienation, revolution, and rebellion that is revealed in *Divergent* novel.

The sixth research was conducted by Devica Hilara Pingkan Saputri in 2017 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title "Motherhood reflected in Veronica Roth's Divergent Novel (2011): A Feminist Perspective". In this research, the researcher tried to find woman's participation, woman's position, that occurred on the main character and the other character and tried to fine motherhood issue in *Divergent* novel..

Object of Study : The object of this study is divided into two, formal and material object. The formal object is Four as Survivor. The material object is the novels

written by Veronica Roth's *Divergent*. The novels were published in 2011 until 2013 in United States. The novel was originally published in United States by HarperCollins Publishers. The novel has 39 chapters and 223 pages. This novel is sold by Veronica Roth to Summit Entertainment. The major character in *Divergent* is Beatrice Prior. Beatrice lives in future version of Chicago which is divided into five distinct factions. The novel *Divergent* was adopted into Divergent film in 2014. The stars of film are Shailene Woodley and Theo James.

2. METHOD

The research method employed in this study is descriptive qualitative method. The type of data in this research is a form of textual data. It includes narrations, monologues and dialogues. These have some sentences which are arranged by many words that has meaning. The data collection is done through documentary or library research that is the writer seeks the data from printed media, the novel in this case, as the primary data and the other sources as secondary data. The following steps are the procedure to conduct the study: first, reading the novel repeatedly, second: taking, important notes in both the primary and secondary data, which is relevant to the study. The technique of data analysis that stated by Miles and Huberman (in Denzin and Lincoln, 1994: 428-429) consists of three sub-processes: data reduction, data display and the drawing of conclusion/verification.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Adaptability In this data, here, Four will teach Tris, how to pass through the simulation successfully without the reality of Tris as Divergent. "you can figure out why they call me Four", from this words, we can know that Four is trying to show his fears that makes people call him as "Four". It means that Four can adapt the situation when new people know about his weakness and fears.

"See if you can figure out why they call me Four," he
says. (**Divergent, p.134**)

This data shows that Four and Tris are in simulation together. And Tris sees directly the past of Four. Four is used to get the punishment in his childhood. It can be seen in direct sentence given by Four to Tris. It means that Four is used to facing his past if he meets the same problem toward him again.

“Um...okay.” He breathes with me again. “This one is from my fantastic childhood. Childhood punishments. The tiny closet upstairs.” (**Divergent, p.136**)

Looking beyond the mistake : It can be seen through how Four sees Tris faces her failure. In this data, Four says directly about Tris’s overbalance in facing her failure in her Dauntles’s initiation. Four says directly “Fear doesn’t shut you down; it wakes you up. I’ve seen it. It’s fascinating.” to inspire Tris for ensuring Tris can success to pass though her continuous initiation. It means that Four can see the positive side every failure happened or unhappy situation.

“Fear doesn’t shut you down; it wakes you up. I’ve seen it. It’s fascinating.” He releases me but doesn’t pull away, his hand grazing my jaw, my neck. “Sometimes I just...want to see it again. Want to see you awake.” (**Divergent, p.130**)

Intuition This Data shows, in the competition, it is divided into two teams. Each team has leader; Eric and Four. In the conversation between Four and Eric, Eric is sure that Four’s team will get lost as soon as he thinks. But here, Four believes with himself that whoever the team is, he believes himself that he can lead them to be winner. It means that Four has confidence toward himself.

They finish choosing teams, and Eric smirks at Four.

“Your team can get off second,” says Eric.

“Don’t do me any favors,” Four replies. He smiles a little.

“You know I don’t need them to win.” (**Divergent, p.59**)

Will to survive In this data, Tris wants to look around the compound where the competition happen and find out the way to get win. Tris climbs the wheel and Four follows her. In their conversation, Tris asks directly to Four about his fear about heights. But in the reality, Four can survive well in Dauntless compound with his weakness. It can be seen in the question given by Tris “How do you survive in the Dauntless compound?”. Then, Four answers clearly with words “I ignore my fear,”. We can see that when Four makes decision, he thinks that he does not have any fear.

Ability to stay calm In the conversation between Four and Tris, here, Tris sees the positive side on Four’s. Beside of his fear, Four has positive side that he does. Four always cares to the other one, things even his life. If Four does not care about he cant be success like now and Four knows that well. By seeing the positive side of his fear, he can survive well.

Not an optimist of a pessimist We can see the conversation between Four and Dauntless’ new member, named Will. Here, Four tries to explain some positions in Dauntless. The one of those is a fence guard. Four tells to Will that there is the benefit to be fence guard but not too much. It can be seen in the sentence “there is some potential for advancement, but not much” given by Four directly. But for Four, he emphasizes to Will that this position really has good effect even not too much. Because there is important thing behind this job, and Four suggests Will to find out by himself. It means that Four doesn’t look what kind of Job is, but he sees the job because the important thing behind it, the status isn’t important.

Child Abuse In this data, we can see child abuse happened to Four. It can be seen from simulation which is done by Four and Tris together. Here, Four wants to teach Tris how to pass though the simulation successfully. So they try the simulation together. In the simulation is filled up with the fear of Four’s and Tris’s. When Four’s fear showed up, Tris can know about the past of Four, his childhood. Marcus is his father, the leader of Government from Abnegation which is attacked by Erudite about his cruelty. It can be seen from the sentence “The Erudite accused Marcus of cruelty.”. Here it can be known clearly that Marcus does the child abuse to physical

of Four by using belt. It can be seen from the words “A belt is curled around one of his fists. Slowly he unwinds it from his fingers.”. Here we can know that Marcus does something right for his son. It is explained clearly from direct sentence to his son (Four) “This is for your own good,”.

Marcus shows us his hands. A belt is curled around one of his fists. Slowly he unwinds it from his fingers.

“This is for your own good,” he says, and his voice echoes a dozen times.

A dozen Marcuses press into the circle of light, all holding the same belt, with the same blank expression. When the Marcuses blink again, their eyes turn into empty, black pits. The belts slither along the floor, which is now white tile. A shiver crawls up my spine. The Erudite accused Marcus of cruelty. For once the Erudite were right. (**Divergent, p.137**)

Still in the simulation together with Tris, the other fear of Four about his past is his punishment that his father used to give. It can be seen that punishments happened in his childhood. It can be seen from the word “Childhood punishments”. The child abuse which is done to Four is “The tiny closet upstairs.”. it can be interpreted that Four got punishment such caged inside of tiny closet upstairs.

“Um...okay.” He breathes with me again. “This one is from my fantastic childhood. Childhood punishments. The tiny closet upstairs.” (**Divergent, p.136**)

After analyzing, the researcher collects the data that Veronica Roth draws Four as A Survivor of Child Abuse in his novel. Survivor itself in the theory which is delivered in the underlying theory, it has eight characteristics, namely: Adaptability, Curiosity, not an Optimist of an Pessimist, Ability to Stay Calm, Looking Beyond the Mistake, Intuition, Breaking the Rules, Will to Survive. But Four just has six characteristics on himself as a survivor, namely: Adaptability, Looking Beyond the

Mistake, Intuition, Will to Survive, Ability to Stay Calm, Not an Optimist of a Pessimist. The most data which appear is Adaptability, the researcher finds five data in the novel. in the second of the most data appears is Looking Beyond the Mistake. It has three data. Those are followed by Intuition, Ability to Stay Calm, Not an Optimist of an Pessimist have same data, two data. In the last, there is one data only, namely: Will to Survive..

Four becomes a survivor happens in Dauntless. Four in Dauntless is as instructor of training for the new member of Dauntless. All characteristics of Four as survivor can be seen through his activities. It begins when he met new member named Tris. In the beginning of training initiations, Four not only gives instructions to the new member but also he gives some suggestions how to win, how to face the training. He pays attention his member such as Tris, Will. He gives clue about the positive side and their superiority in facing the competitions.

4. CONCLUSION

In choosing group to have competition, Four always believes with his choice. He uses his own instincts that what he chooses is right. Four chooses some new members who are in the last rankings before. The one of them is Tris. After long time of training Tris, one by one his fears show up. But Four never denies his fears and always stay calm. Even the other knows his weakness, it doe not matter for him. He can adapt well when he faces his fears, weakness such as his past. He got child abuse from his father. It can be seen when Four tries to teach Tris how to pass through the simulation initiation. In simulation, people will face his fears. So does Four. He met his father using belt to punish him and got inside of locked toilet. He lets Tris knows it because he already adapt it.

In all training of the new member, Four contributes the success of the new member because he always cheers them up and always makes them never give up, to think positively in all conditions and situations. He always gives suggestions too when the member faces the problem: such as asking Tris to forgive some who already ask forgiveness from her. It happens when Tris regrets because she doesn't forgive

her friend because of trying to kill her, she doesn't forgive and in the end her friend commits suicide. Four never stops to ask seeing positive side in every failure and unhappy situation toward him self and the others.

Related the theory which is given in underlying theory (chapter II), the researcher concludes that Four mostly tends to drive his mind with Ego. According to Freud, the ego is a development of the id and proves that the id can be expressed in a manner acceptable in the real world. Because of its awareness with reality, the egos take the decision when and how the id instinct can best be satisfied. Therefore, the ego determines the appropriate acceptable place, time, and object that will be satisfied the id instinct (Schultz and Sydney, 2005: 55). It is because Four can survive well with his wise steps toward his life. Even his past was fulfilled with the punishments. But by the time, Four makes it as his strength into his life to face the challenges in his life in adulthood. It drives Four as the strong character and success man in his life. It changes the way of Four's mind facing his life to get better way having better life.

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