

DEFENSE MECHANISM IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS'S

THE THREE MUSKETEERS:

A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In the human daily lives, the people confront situation that urges them to do something in order to minimize the effect of situation. For example, the parents whose worries about their children's behavior make protection steps to give limitation for their behavior. Generally, the situation above is the situation, which bring the anxiety of the human being so that they will do anything to handle it. Someone who feels very angry with somebody or something else and he or she cannot find the source-which makes them angry, him or her vents the anger to another object or doing something, such as hitting something, crying, screaming, etc. There are many ways for the people to handle their anxiety. These psychological facts called defense mechanism.

Defense mechanism is part of humanism psychology, especially psycho analytics. Psycho analytics is a part of the psychology that analyzes the personality, unconscious motive of the behaviorism, and personality development. Sigmund Freud (1856-1932), who giving contribution to the modern psychology published Psycho analytics, Freud elaborates between human's mind and Ice Mountain. Little part, which arises on the water surface, is describing conscious experience and the bigger part of Ice Mountain under of water surface is describing unconscious (Atkinson and Atkinson, 1983:132). Freud proposed three-structure personality, they are, the id, ego, superego, which are the three different parts to the personality, each of those

serves a different function and develops at a different time (1932). Those three components do not, physically present in the brain forces. Freud assumed, based on his observation of people's behaviors an expressed thought and feeling.

The psychological phenomenon described above was often found on the literary works. The literary work has psychological message that reached trough this. There are authors who create their literary works considering psychological phenomenon. One of them is Alexandre Dumas; his mother rose who lived from 1802 to 1870. His father, a General during the Revolution and under Napoleon, died when Dumas was four. The family had fallen out of favor with Napoleon, so young Dumas and his mothers left without means, living in the provinces. Dumas received a limited education from a local priest, and at the age of twenty-one, traveled to Paris to make his fortune. His first play was produced in 1829; he began a successful career as a dramatist and writer, which culminated with *The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte Cristo*. As he grew older, Dumas's opulent lifestyle forced him to sink into greater and greater debt, and by the time of his death in 1870, he was at the mercy of his creditors (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/). Both of Dumas's literary works *The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* are famous entire of the literary world. Nevertheless, Dumas's *The Three Musketeers* more popular than *The Count of Monte Cristo*. (http://www.enotes.com/ three_musketeers/). Therefore, that is why the writer

chooses the ALEXANDRE Dumas the Three Musketeers, as an object of the research.

The Three Musketeers (Le Trois Mousquetaires) was published in 1844 in a Parisian Magazine, entitled Siecle. The publication was serialized; meaning each subsequent issue of the magazine contained an additional section of the story. Dumas's brilliant concept was to combine the historical novel and the romance into a single story. Historical fiction means, simply, fiction based on historical themes or events. As we saw in the closing portions of the book, Dumas gives us a fully developed Romance within his historical framework. He starts with levity and confidence, and ends with moroseness and doubt. The ending, indeed, seems to question many of the books dearly held values. D'Artagnan becomes a lieutenant in the Musketeers, but his promotion comes from the Cardinal--the Cardinal whom he and his four friends had fought so valiantly against for the first half of the novel. In the epilogue, d'Artagnan befriends the Comte de Rochefort, a Cardinalist agent. Was all that earlier fighting really worth it, then? Or was there something futile in the entire Musketeers' efforts? Both the possibility of futility and this return to the normal at the end of a great Quest, characterize the form of the Romance as much as do its lighter aspects. Dumas sees the form through (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/).

With Dumas's historical context in mind, the melancholy of the Romance becomes even more pronounced. It is almost as though Dumas presents this wonderful Romantic adventure, providing people with a chance

to escape day-to-day toil and immerse themselves in better thoughts about their country, and then spurns it. He cannot bring himself to see the lie of Romanticism through to the end. Even bearing in mind that this turn to ambiguity is typical for the end of the Romance, it is hard not to interpret the ending of the novel as Dumas's rejection of Romantic values. (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/).

There are two sequels to *The Three Musketeers*, which Dumas wrote to capitalize on the success of the novel. They are entitled *Vingt ans apres*, published in 10 volumes in 1845, and *Dix ans plus tard, ou le vicomte de Bragelonne*, published in 26 parts from 1848-1850. The latter opens in 1660, and tells of a matured, powerful d'Artagnan, captain of the Musketeers. It also contains the account of Porthos's heroic death. Nevertheless, despite these sequels, Dumas never fully recaptured his success of 1844. His estate and his health declined until, after a period of furious attempted productivity to recoup his debts, he died in 1870. The Romance left his life as well (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/).

Nevertheless, *The Three Musketeers* is not merely a Romance; it is also a great historical novel, and Dumas's interesting approach to history contributes to the success of his book. While he keeps his characters away from being major players in national events, he is not afraid of brazenly attributing human motives to history. In Dumas's version, France and England very nearly fight a war simply because the Duke of Buckingham loves Anne of Austria: John Fenton assassinates Buckingham because of personal reasons

provided by Milady, and so on. Part of the entertainment of *The Three Musketeers* is that, in seeming to avoid the great events and focus on petty affairs, Dumas explains the great events more satisfyingly and entertainingly than any direct explanation of affairs of state could hope to do. History does not have a face-- d'Artagnan has a face, and a handsome one at that. (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/). His innovations provide us with the wonderful escape into another time and place, but in his own time in France, they may have performed an even more important function. Following the chaos and violence of the French revolution, 19th century France was a nation in turmoil. The novel creates a romance of history that is sweeping, entertaining, and grand and takes out all the bits that might have made his public uncomfortable. In addition, we still love it today. (http://www.enotes.com/three_musketeers/).

Moreover, because literature is describing of the human being lives, the writer tries to break down the psychological problem in Dumas's novel, *Three Musketeers* by using psychoanalytic approach. In this study, the writer encourages himself to give the title *Defense Mechanism in Alexandre Dumas's the Three Musketeers: a Psychoanalytic Approach*

B. Literature Review

As far as the writer knows, *Defense Mechanism in Alexandre Dumas's The Three Musketeers: a Psychoanalytic Approach* has never been conducted. That is why the writer wants to analyze this novel.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the phenomenon clarified above, the writer proposed the problems, “how does the major character of the *The Three Musketeers* to handle his anxiety and what is the defense mechanism that used by the major character? “

D. Objective of the study

The objective of this study is to expose the internal element of the novel in association with psychological phenomenon, especially psychoanalytic.

E. Limitation of the study

In this research, the writer tries to giving limitation of the defense mechanism in protagonist major characters. In this research, the writer explores one character, namely D’Artagnan as a protagonist character.

F. Benefit of the Study

1. Theoretically, the result of the study contributes to the larger body of the knowledge, particularly literary study.
2. Practically, the result of the research, for getting the bachelor degree of education in English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

G. Research Method

The research methods consist of:

1. Type of Research

The writer uses qualitative research method to understand this novel.

2. Type of Data

a). The primary data

Primary data is taken from the novel Alexandre Dumas's *The Three Musketeers* that published in 1844.

b).The secondary source taken from the critics and article of Alexandre Dumas's *The Three Musketeers*.

3. Techniques Of Data Collection

In this techniques, the writer using library research to get appropriate data support the research. The techniques are as follows:

- a. Reading the novel more than once, after looking for material and underlying the important data, including the sentence, phrases, and words in order to understand the novel.
- b. Exploring the main data, relating to the major character that will analyzed considering the novel.
- c. Identifying a particular part considered important and relevant for the analysis.
- d. Making notes of the important parts of both primary and secondary data in cards.
- e. Classify data in to some appropriate categories.
- f. Select the data by rejecting the irrelevant material, which does not, supporting the topic of the study.
- g. Research the selecting material and development them into a good unity, supporting the topic of the study.

4. Techniques of Data Analysis.

The technique is descriptive by describing the structural elements and analysis of the major character in novel related with psychoanalytic.

H. Research Paper Organization.

The research consists of five chapters. The first chapter is background, literature review, the problem statement, and objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. The second chapter is dealing with review of underlying theory. The third is structural elements of the novel. The fourth is psychological analysis. Moreover, the last chapter is conclusion.