

**HUMAN NATURE IN THE MAIN CHARACTER OF PAULO
COELHO'S *THE DEVIL AND MISS PRYM* NOVEL (2000): A
PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor
Degree of Education in English Department**

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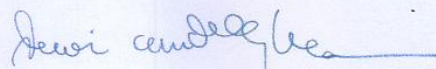
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Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui sifat manusia pada novel hasil karya Paulo Coelho, yaitu *The Devil and Miss Prym*. Novel ini menceritakan tentang Chantal, karakter utama, yang termotivasi untuk menyelamatkan Viscos, tempat kelahirannya. Pada penelitian ini terdapat tiga rumusan masalah yang akan dianalisis, yaitu: (1) sifat manusia dalam protagonis dan antagonis di dalam novel, (2) deskripsi sifat manusia dalam protagonis dan antagonis di dalam novel, dan (3) alasan Paulo Coelho menggunakan unsur-unsur sifat manusia dalam protagonis dan antagonis di dalam novel. Penelitian ini termasuk dalam jenis penelitian kualitatif yang dilakukan dengan metode deskriptif. Dengan menggunakan perspektif psikoanalisis, Penelitian ini berusaha menganalisis novel *The Devil and Miss Prym* karya Paulo Coelho yang ditulis pada tahun 2000. Dalam penelitian ini, sumber data adalah novel karya Paulo Coelho yaitu *The Devil and Miss Prym* yang ditulis pada tahun 2000. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini menggunakan dialog oleh karakter utama dalam novel, protagonis dan antagonis digunakan sebagai data. Analisis data kualitatif digunakan oleh peneliti untuk menganalisis data. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa pertama, sifat manusia yang dimasukkan dalam karakter utama novel Coelho "*The Devil and Miss Prym*" adalah sex dan aggression, ego yang terkait dengan kebutuhan akan cinta, pelestarian diri, hasrat, dan ketakutan. Sifat-sifat manusia tersebut ditanamkan dalam karakter utama, terutama *The Stranger* atau Carlos dan Chantal Prym. Kedua, dalam "*The Devil and Miss Prym*", kompleksitas sifat manusia diidentifikasi. Dengan secara khusus menganalisis orang-orang Viscos melalui pikiran dan tindakan mereka, jelas terbukti bahwa sifat manusia digambarkan sebagai Baik dan Jahat. Ketiga, Coelho memasukkan unsur sifat manusia ke dalam karakter novelnya, khususnya "*The Devil and Miss Prym*" ini untuk memberi pelajaran kepada pembaca melalui karakternya tentang benar dan salah dan dua sisi sifat manusia itu sendiri yaitu Baik dan Jahat atau Baik dan Buruk.

Kata Kunci: psychoanalytic, sifat manusia, the devil and miss prym

Abstract

This research presents analysis of human nature in the novel by Paulo Coelho's entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym*. Chantal, the main character in the novel, who has motivation to save Viscos, her village since she was born is told in the story. Three problems were analyzed in this research. They are: (1) the protagonist and antagonist human nature in the novel, (2) the human nature description of the protagonist and antagonist in the novel, and (3) The motive of Paulo Coelho's motive to use elements of human nature human nature elements in his novel's main characters. The type of research used by the researcher was qualitative

research with descriptive methods. The novel *The Devil and Miss Prym* which is the work of Paulo Coelho written in 2000 was analyzed using the perspective of psychoanalysis. In this research, the novel *The Devil and Miss Prym* by Paulo Coelho written in 2000 became a source of data. The data used in this research were the dialogue or narration of the main characters, the protagonist and the antagonist in the novel. In conducting analysis, the researcher applied qualitative data analysis with a psychoanalysis approach. The results of the analysis in this research indicated that first, human nature is inserted in the main character in Coelho's novel entitled "*The Devil and Miss Prym*" is sex and aggression, ego related to the needs for love, self-care or preservation, desires, and fear. Human traits are embedded in the main character, particularly in The Stranger or Carlos and Chantal Prym. Second, in this novel, complicated human nature can be known. Human nature is demonstrated, especially through the Viscos of their thoughts and actions which clearly proves that human nature is described as Good and Evil. Third, Coelho incorporated elements of human nature into the characters of his novel, especially in the novel "*The Devil and Miss Prym*" to teach the reader through his character about right and wrong and the two sides of human nature itself namely Good and Evil or Good and Bad.

Keywords: psychoanalytic, human nature, the devil and miss prym

1. INTRODUCTION

A person's natural character called as human nature. It refers to different characters, including in behaving, acting, feeling, way of life and others. Everyone has a different character. Marx (1818-1883) states that Human Nature is natural growth of the history. Marx believes that natural developments in history can lead people to the true freedom organizing factors in cultured and socially that alienating them from their natural identity.

Paulo Coelho in his novel entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym* pays attention to the existence of human nature. His work of *The Devil and Miss Prym* explicitly represents human nature. Every books written by Coelho has their respective focus on the lives of ordinary people within one week and which will be confronted with great power that change lives. Paulo Coelho believed that the most profound changes occur in a significant reduced time.

The Devil and Miss Prym received several responses, some responded positively and some responded negatively. Based on some responses, it is stated that Paulo discusses the journey of human life with a philosophical life full of

values and messages that can be taken. In the review of the Paulo' book, it is stated that the novel invite to explore the naturally good or evil of people. Meanwhile, according to one of the reader's view, this novel is very dynamic but a little boring since the storyline is very flat and simple.

In addition, the plot used in this novel is very interesting and unpredictable to the reader which makes the reader curious about the continuation of the story and will continue to finish reading the novel. The storyline is made very appealing, starting from the initial journey of Carlos who came to Viscos which aims to seek whether in this world, good people are still there then continued his meeting with Miss Prym and asked him to kill one of the people in Viscos so that Viscos lives prosperously with the promised treasure Carlos and in the end Miss Prym was made aware of Berta, an old woman who was about to be killed was aware of Carlos' evil plans. In this novel Paolo gives messages and values with his novel that contain like a real human life. This novel also teaches us to respect each other.

The subject matter in this novel is about searching for someone who wants to prove his true nature in humans, whether humans have evil or good nature. It means that this novel is concerned about human nature. In the results of Coelho's literary work featuring the protagonist and antagonist. In storytelling, the protagonist is the main character in a story. The writer uses the protagonist to push the story forward the purpose of the protagonist reflects the whole purpose of the story, the plot moves forward based on the protagonist's decision, and their character is what is read through the story. Meanwhile, antagonists are opponents or fighters who work against the aims of the protagonist or main character ("antagonist") and create conflict.

Based on above explanation, this research is intended to identify the elements of the humans nature and to describe the human nature of the protagonist and antagonist of *The Devil and Miss Prym* novel, then, to identify the motive of Paulo Coelho reason to use the elements of the human nature in the protagonist and antagonist characters of the novel.

2. METHOD

Qualitative type of research was used in this research by employing descriptive method. Creswell (2007) stated that qualitative research is an approach to ask a question that starts by asking assumptions, world views, possible theoretical lenses and case studies of research that explores the meaning of individuals or groups which explained in terms of social or human circumstances.

Here, novel by Paolo Coelho entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym* that was written in 2000 becomes the source of the data. The novel is published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama that contains 256 pages and 25 chapters. *The Devil and Miss Prym* was chosen as to be analyzed since the story inside it is related or shows the good or evil in humanity.

The research was attempted to analyze the novel by Paolo Coelho entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym* that was written year 2000 by using a psychoanalytic perspective. The descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze the matter in this research.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Findings of the Research

3.1.1 The Elements of Human Nature

This part presents the elements of human nature in the novel by Coelho entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym* which was analysed. Sigmund Freud (1923) theory was used as the basic foundation for the analysis. In Psychoanalytic investigations carried out by Freud, namely human nature shows that human nature consists of several characteristics that crave to meet certain needs and impulses like: Sex and aggression, the need for love and the avoidance of pain in all areas of life.

Findings of the research on human nature in the main characters in the novel based on Freud's theory is described as follow:

3.1.1.1 Aggression

One of the human nature stated by Freud is aggression. It is found in the main characters of the novel, *The Stranger* and *Chantal*. It shown by both characters as follow.

In the novel, one of the main character, The Stranger go to the village named Viscos to prove if human born good or evil. The Stranger wants to test theory in his mind that human beings nature when they faced temptations, they somehow change direction due to the right reason, they will be willing to commit crime.

Based on the story in the novel, the stranger's decision to come to Viscos and conduct his plan in there proves that aggression is reflected in the character of The Stranger. He committed for several dangerous or destructive purposes, from love to mastery to vengeance. The stranger is unconsciously attributing his own unacceptable impulses, attitudes and behaviors in proving whether humans are born good or evil by breaking on of the Ten Commandments in exchange of gold bars, to God.

Meanwhile, Chantal aggression can be seen when Chantal fights against the stranger's desire since she thinks that it is a weird action. This situation shows Chantal's dilemma since she has to choose between her dreams or her birthplace. In fact, people who are looking for their dreams will do everything to get it.

3.1.1.2 Desire

As human, both characters of The Stranger and Chantal has desire. It can be found in the story as follow.

The Stranger's desire is by planning to prove whether human being is good or bad. He does it because he still cannot understand why the terrorists do that to his family. He wonders if the terrorists still have conscience when they do the kinds of thing on his family.

In the story of the novel, it shows that the stranger's behavior in looking for the truth "whether human being is good or bad" in the novel is his desire. Since The Stranger has lost all his family, he is motivated to look for the truth behind human's nature. His desire to tempt Viscos people is based on his frustrated and curiosity.

The plan of The Stranger in provoking Viscos's people disobeying one out of the Ten Order, makes Viscos's people angry since killing an innocent person is categorized as a criminal act.

Meanwhile, Chantal's desire can be seen when she is tempted to steal some gold so that she can leave the village and start a new life. Chantal's willingness in conveying the message of The Stranger to Viscos people can be seen from two factors. Those are the factor that comes from the internal and external side. The internal factor which influences Chantal is Chantal's desire to get the gold so that she can reach her dreams. The external factor which influences Chantal is Chantal's desire to prove that Viscos people are good men to the stranger. It means that Viscos people are people who still have conscience in which they will not sacrifice their people for the sake of the ten bars of gold.

3.1.1.3 The Need for Love

In the novel, The Stranger and Chantal show that they have the need for love.

The need for love instilled in The Stranger can be seen that he is a devoted husband of a beautiful wife, and father of two beautiful daughters.

Then, The Stranger loses his willingness to live due to his losing his wife and two daughters in an abduction shows that he needs for love.

Meanwhile, the need for love instilled in Chantal can be seen in her life as she is the youngest woman in Viscos village since every young man and woman who was born in Viscos had gone to big city and left Chantal alone. She always searches her love in every man who comes to Viscos village but the result is none.

From the story of the novel, it shows that Chantal needs to be loved by others, that is why she plans to set up a meeting with the stranger accidentally near the mountain. Yet, what she finds is not love but a wrestling heart to make a decision which is made by the stranger.

3.1.1.4 Fear

The author of the novel also instilled human nature of fear in the main characters that can be seen through The Stranger and Chantal.

The stranger's decision to come to and conduct his plan in Viscos is also called as displacement. The stranger's ego that drives fear is unconsciously attributing his unacceptable fate caused by God through the terrorists who has more power to the people of Viscos who have less power. The stranger is displeased by the fact that the people of Viscos who has the possibility to choose,

thus, because he does not have the possibility to choose he wants to see whether the people of Viscos may have acted differently than the terrorists who kill his wife and two daughters.

Based on the story of the novel, the main character of *The Stranger* mostly blames God for the unfortunate fate that he has as he has to lose his wife and his two daughters in an abduction by the terrorists (Coelho, 2000: 67). Since *The Stranger* fears God, and he cannot directly confront God who has more power than him, the stranger's ego thus redirects his impulses to the people of Viscos who have less power since he, as an extremely rich and a famous industrialist, feels that he has more power than the people of Viscos (Coelho, 2000: 63 – 64).

3.1.2 The Description of Human Nature

In this part of the research, the researcher presents how human nature described in the novel written by Coelho entitled *The Devil and Miss Prym*, as follow. Paulo Coelho's *The Devil and Miss Prym* is an interesting novel, which not only explores the original nature of humanity, but also has extra meaning. On the surface, this story copies the ordinary life of the Viscos villagers who were suddenly shaken by the arrival of strangers and somehow made them struggle with questions about life, death, and power.

This book tells and shares angels with demons, but their form is not the angels or demons that is familiar. The angels and devils in this story are depicted as humans with evil qualities resembling demons and humans with good qualities.

The human nature in the novel can be clearly seen through paragraph 2 and paragraph 3.

In the paragraph 2 of the novel, it shows the main character of Chantal. Chantal portrayed a concern for her people and sought that Viscos should stay the same serene place. Chantal's own longing for the man of her dreams and the perfect life she would have with him could have been fulfilled if she accepted the proposal. Nevertheless, she was concerned and distraught with tears as to why the stranger had chosen their village to test human nature. Chantal's plead to the stranger to let their village go depicted clearly that she had a good heart in which she wanted the best for her people.

Then, in Ahab. Ahab was a foreigner who became a part of Viscos by promoting fear and threats. He declared that he will kill the people if they do not cooperate with him. However, saving, an inhabitant, altered Ahab's way of living. He made him realize that he similar to everyone and that he can offer hospitality to those in needs, despite all his sins.

Next, in paragraph 3 of the novel, in the book *The Devil and Miss Prym*, Paulo Coelho points out that major changes can occur in a very short time and in unexpected times. Paulo Coelho shows human nature in through Good and Bad.

Through the book *The Devil and Miss Prym* specifically the struggle of the main character Miss Prym who is also called Chantal, Chantal Prym, the author wants to give an overview of the decision making process undertaken by Chantal for a difficult offer and creates a dilemma for him. On the one hand, by accepting the offer he can realize all his dreams in a very short time, but on the other hand he must become a person who betrays the good values that have been held by the inhabitants of his village and have been embedded in his heart.

The eleven gold bars will change the life of Chantal forever as well as all the inhabitants of the village of Viscos, but to get the gold Chantal must betray the values that have been believed and held in high esteem by the people of Viscos. Chantal can get a piece of gold into his possession by stealing it whenever he wants because he knows where the gold is hidden, but by stealing the gold means Chantal violates God's command "Don't steal". Another ten gold bars will be given to the people of Viscos on condition that one of the residents of Viscos must be killed, if that happens it means that the people of Viscos have violated God's command "Don't kill". Chantal was hit by an inner war, Good and Evil fought in him as the same thing happens in every human when faced with an offer and must make a decision.

Realizing that decisions can bring changes in life so that a judgment, courage and responsibility are needed, the writer chose to explore Paulo Coelho's book *The Devil and Miss Prym* specifically to explore the struggle of Miss Prym in decision making, as one of the assistance in decision making based on conscience.

Based on the above analysis, the human nature in *The Devil and Miss Prym*, is depicted through the main characters in their changes into Good or Bad.

3.1.3 Paulo Coelho Reason to Use the Elements of the Human Nature

Here, the researcher presents the reason of Coelho in putting the element of human nature in “*The Devil and Miss Prym*”, by analyzing several critics given to the novel.

The book *The Devil and Miss Prym* features figures representing human stories in their struggle to make decisions. The characters in the book *The Devil and Miss Prym* are: Miss Prym or Chantal Prym, one of the Viscos residents who is daily addressed by Chantal as the main character in the book *The Devil and Miss Prym*.

Carlos-stranger, A guest who came to Viscos claimed to be named Carlos to the hotel receptionist. But to Chantal he admitted that the identity he gave to the receptionist was all fake. His name is not Carlos, so Chantal calls Carlos 'a stranger'.

The book *The Devil and Miss Prym* tells about the struggle of a young woman named Chantal who lives in the village of Viscos. His struggle began with his encounter with a stranger who claimed to be named Carlos. Carlos showed Chantal eleven gold bars each weighing two kilograms. A bar of gold will belong to Chantal and ten more will be given to the people of Viscos. But to get the gold Chantal and the people of Viscos had to violate some of God's commands.

Based on the analysis of the novel and several critics, it can be assumed that Coelho inserted the human nature elements in the characters of his novel, particularly “*The Devil and Miss Prym*” is to give lesson to the reader through his characters about the right and wrong and the two side of human nature itself which is Good and Bad.

3.2 Discussion

3.2.1 Human Nature Elements

Findings in this research on human nature in the novel by Coelho entitled “*The Devil and Miss Prym*” is supported by the theory from Psychoanalytic

investigations carried out by Sigmund Freud, in the form of human nature consists of several characteristics related to needs and impulses such as sex and aggression, the ego that drives it to pleasant experiences, the need for love and pleasure in every area of life (Freud, 1923).

This research finds that the human nature inserted in the main characters of the novel studied in this research are sex and aggression, the ego which related to the need for love, self-preservation, desire, and fear. Those are instilled in the main characters, particularly The Stranger or Carlos and Chantal Prym.

The Stranger and Chantal has sex and aggression. Aggression and sex according to Freud (1923) is a powerful motivator for human behaviour. The destructive counterpart of the life promoting force that each of us had: the libido called as aggression.

The Stranger and Chantal has desire. In Freud (1923), desires are associated as unconscious hopes or desires. Freud saw desires as related to "fullness" and understood them as being stored in the realm of the unconscious as well as being an impetus for one's actions in seeking fulfilment of his/ her desires.

Then, Next, The Stranger and Chantal has the need for love. A sense of belonging and acceptance, whether it comes from a large or small social group need to be felt by human. The need for love includes love that gives and love that receives.

The Stranger and Chantal also has fear. Fear is a basic survival mechanism that occurs in response to a certain stimulus, such as pain or threat of danger (Kozłowska, 2015).

3.2.2 The Description of Human Nature in The Devil and Miss Prym

In the novel "The Devil and Miss Prym", human nature can be seen. Human nature can be understood by analyzing people, especially Viscos people through their thoughts and actions, it is clearly proven that human nature is represented to be Good and Evil.

Freud's basic notions of human nature still hold for the majority of modern psychoanalytic theorists, they have been modified to include powerful social

needs beyond simple discharge of sexual and aggressive drive tensions (Freud, 1923).

Freud's view of human nature is essentially pessimistic, deterministic, mechanistic, and reductionistic. According to Freud, humans are determined by irrational forces, unconscious motivations, biological and instinctive needs and drives, and by psychosexual events that occur during the first five years of life. Humans are seen as energy systems.

Based on the analysis of "The Devil and Miss Prym", it tries to answer the question that haunts one's minds and hearts whenever someone is in distress or sufferings. Human nature in the novel is described in the inner conflict experienced by Miss Prym, that's what Coelho has spoken of as a battle between good and evil. In every human being there continues to be a battle between good and evil. What humans do ultimately shows who wins the war, good or bad.

3.2.3 Paulo Coelho Reason to Use the Elements of the Human Nature

Based on some criticisms, it can be found that in the main characters of his novel Coelho inserted the human nature elements in the characters of his novel is to give lesson to the reader through his characters about the right and wrong and the two side of human nature itself which is Good and Evil or Good and Bad.

This book by Paulo Coelho is about the concepts of Good and Evil which are the essence of human life. The plot in this story is about the human struggle between evil self and good self. It shows that the author of the novel is intended to tell to the reader on two side of human nature which is either good or bad.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, first, Using the psychoanalytic theory of human nature by Freud (1923), this research finds that the human nature inserted in the main characters of the novel "*The Devil and Miss Prym*" by Coelho are aggression, the ego which related to the need for love, self-preservation, desire, and fear. Those are instilled in the main characters, particularly The Stranger or Carlos and Chantal Prym.

Second, in the novel by Coelho *The Devil and Miss Prym*, the human nature of Good and Bad is reflected in the main character of Carlos and Chantal.

Human nature is clearly illustrated through the character of Miss Pym who struggles to maintain his commitment to never violate God's commands. Her decision to reject the offer of gold experienced various challenges and temptations.

Third, through some review of criticisms, it can be assumed why Coelho instilled the human nature in his main characters in his novel of “The Devil and Miss Pym”. Based on some criticisms, it can be concluded that Coelho inserted the human nature elements in the novel entitled “*The Devil and Miss Pym*” is to give lesson to the reader through his characters about the right and wrong and the two side of human nature itself which is God and Evil or God and Bad.

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