

## PSYCHOLOGICAL CONFLICTS OF REBECCA'S CHARACTER IN "*THIS FAR FROM PARADISE*" NOVEL BY PHILIP SHELBY

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### Abstract

"*This Far from Paradise*" is all about a feisty young woman who fights to regain control of her dead father's Caribbean empire. Max McHenry is a grizzled old prospector straight out of Treasure of the Sierra Madre when he makes a fabulous gold strike and shrewdly builds a financial empire on it, becoming practically king of a group of Caribbean islands called the Angelines. In the novel entitled "**This Far from Paradise**" written by Philip Shelby, the writer wants to find the way how the characters show their role to give the reader the meaning of the novel, how the story goes. The research methodology is the qualitative method. There are some steps done by the writer in doing the research. Firstly, the writer reads the novel by Philip Shelby which entitled "*This Far from Paradise*", and tries to understand its content. Secondly, the writer reads some other references that are related to the study. Furthermore, the writer applies the psychoanalysis theory of personality by Sigmund Freud concerning trauma, anxiety, and the defense mechanism.

**Keywords:** *Psychological conflict, Character, This Far from Paradise, Philip Shelby*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a form of creative art using language as the medium and the object of its work is human and his life. The language used in literature is art language. Rene' Welleck and Austin Warren in their book *Theory of Literature* said, "Language is the material of literature as stone or bronze is of sculpture, paints of pictures, or sound of music" (1977:22). The art of language used in a literary work such as in novels shows that every author has his characterization as their way in writing a novel. The author delivers that message by the story happening with characters shown in the novel. The characters can play the role of moral and psychological values in the novel. In a psychological novel, the emotional reactions and internal states of the characters are influenced by and in turn trigger external events in a meaningful symbiosis. This emphasis on the inner life of characters is a fundamental element of a vast body of fiction.

Literature in its various forms, but particularly novels, plays, and poetry, may be considered as a source of psychological data. Literature is written about human experiences and often depicts the private and public lives of individuals and groups. The human experiences explored in literature, and the aspects of lives described, are often very similar to those that are of central concern for psychologists. Literary works could help psychologists gain a better understanding of long-term psychological processes and change, and in this way fill an important gap in psychological knowledge (Moghaddam, 2002). This is in terms not only of individual personality development over the lifespan but also of the changing social relationships and collective and institutional processes that fundamentally shape individual development.

In this study, the writer is going to discuss more on the psychological conflict of the main characters. Here the writer uses the psychoanalysis theory of personality by Sigmund Freud and emphasizes more on the trauma, anxiety, and fixation of the defense mechanisms. Psychology, as we know is the study of the soul, and through this, we can learn about the personality of someone. To learn about some people's personalities, we need to know and learn about their characterization deeply. "Personality includes something about you, including your basic disposition, your emotion, your behavior, and everything you learn that becomes part of you" (Riker, 1982:23).

In the novel entitled "**This Far from Paradise**" written by Philip Shelby, the writer wants to find the way how the characters show their role to give the reader the meaning of the novel, how the story goes. This novel shows us all about a feisty young woman who fights to regain control of her dead father's Caribbean empire. Max McHenry is a grizzled old prospector straight out of Treasure of the Sierra Madre when he makes a fabulous gold strike and shrewdly builds a financial empire on it, becoming practically king of a group of Caribbean islands called the Angelines. But in the mid-60 he takes a fall while out roaming through the jungle near the site of an ancient Mayan temple-city, is permanently bedridden, and then killed in a deliberately set fire. That leaves his business and the Angelines in the hands of his beautiful young daughter, Rebecca, who is married to Max's ambitious young second-in-command, Andrew Stoughton. But weird things keep happening pregnant with Andrew's child, Rebecca is run off the road and the baby dies. Rebecca begins to realize that Andrew plans to take over the McHenry Empire indeed, that he probably caused the fall that incapacitated Max and the fire that killed him, and that he possibly even caused the death of his son. She flees to set up her posh resort chain and even takes up with the nice son of a Mafia don, but Tony Fabrizzi is killed in an Andrew-inspired explosion meant for Rebecca. Andrew urges Tony's father, Michele Fabrizzi, to think that Rebecca caused Tony's death, and Rebecca is forced to hide out, at the same time giving birth to Tony's son. In the end, she sets a fatal trap for Andrew. Just about as far as you can get from Paradise without tripping into Purgatory with uninspired romance and unbelievable adventure.

This novel illustrates a good motivation of life to its readers. It teaches that people have to struggle in their lives and to be brave to face the real-life that people have. That is the main reason why the writer wants to analyze this novel. The writer wants to know how the psychological analysis of the characters in the novel gives effects to the story of this novel so the writer chooses the title "**Psychological Conflicts of Rebecca Character in This Far from Paradise Novel Written by Philip Shelby**" become the title of this thesis. The writer hopes this thesis can be useful and give the reader more information about life and This Far from Paradise novel especially.

## II. METHOD

The research was done by analyzing the conflict of the main character in the novel entitled "*This Far from Paradise*" by Philip Shelby in terms of the psychological aspect. The analysis was done by studying the sentences or statements in the novel, either the direct or indirect sentences, which could indicate the personality of the main character.

The data were collected by using library research as the method. The collected data was done by reading the data source thoroughly, understanding the data source, and also by note-taking. The process of collecting the data was divided into several steps. Firstly, reading and understanding the content of the novel, and then finding out the statements which are related to the problems, in this case, the psychological conflict.

The collected data were analyzed qualitatively based on the theoretical basics of psychoanalysis theory. All the data collected were classified into certain categories. To determine the data belonging to a certain point of analysis, the data were copied from the novel first and then, categorized based on the psychoanalysis theory available.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Bad experience often happens in a human's life, but not all bad experiences can trigger trauma. Only bad experiences in the past that gave fixation can make someone trauma. The person could not accept this bad condition; he could stick in mental and physical disorder or known as *post-traumatic stress disorder* (PTSD). Post-traumatic stress disorder or trauma is an unwanted condition where someone feels overwhelmed because of the past. Trauma can cause anxiety, frustration, stress, or even psychological conflict. The response to trauma can be wide and varied, and differ from person to person. Some people can be proactive by knowing a stressor before it affects life, reactive by recognizing a stressor after it affects life, and the rest give a passive response by ignoring and allowing a stressor to influence life for a long time without the struggle to cope with trauma (Cantor, 2005: 15).

This novel has attractive ways to catch the reader to its storyline. Conflict is used by the author to attract the reader and give the sense in the story of the novel. In this thesis, the writer is going to discuss the internal conflicts of the main character. The internal conflict is about Rebecca's internal conflict that happens in herself about her trauma, anxiety, and defense mechanism which sometimes trouble her.

Rebecca as the main character in the novel faces many conflicts in her life especially related to her psychological conflict. She had everything, she has a happy life with her father but after the accident that befalls her father Max McHenry; she was consumed with trauma, grief, and anxiety. She went through a divorce, a crushing depression, another failed love, and the eradication of everything she ever thought she was supposed to be. This is the repression. To recover the problems, Rebecca took a radical step to give her the time and space to find out who she was and what she wanted. All memories in the past make Rebecca feel furious. She aimed to regain control of her father's Enterprises; to pay revenge to those people who set the traps and accident that caused the death of the person whom she loves dearly.

To overcome the trauma, people form self-defense mechanisms. People consciously or unconsciously form self-defense mechanisms to reduce the bad feeling and solve psychological conflict. Perhaps, through self-defense mechanisms, someone can forget the overwhelming situation temporarily or permanently. The self-defense mechanism can be shown in many ways, starting from a simple defense mechanism until firm defense mechanisms, such as repression, alienation, fixation, fantasy, and rationalization. These mechanisms are forms of deception by changing the perception (Freud, 1964: 45).

In the story of the novel, the writer finds out that the main character goes through conflicts in her life especially conflicts that are related to her inner self. The writer also feels interested in how the main character defends herself from those conflicts that troubled her. Here the writer decides to limit the discussion on the causes of the main character's trauma and the defense mechanisms she uses to defend herself.

#### **The Causes of Rebecca's Trauma or Destruction**

No one ever imagines that he or she must lose someone in life. Losing someone in life can make trauma. Experiencing trauma with its symptoms makes someone re-enact and re-experience the traumatic events. This process will be last as long as one cannot solve the psychological conflict. In the story of the novel, the writer finds out that the main character in the novel experiences psychological wounds the so-called trauma.

### a. *Max's death*

According to Freud (1919/1955a), traumatic neuroses were caused by real experiences such as accidents, death, and combat, whereas anxiety neuroses were the result of sexual and aggressive fantasies based on early witnessing of the primal scene.

In his short paper, "Thoughts for the times on war and death" (1957), Freud recognized not only that "in the unconscious, every one of us is convinced of his immortality", but that in the death of another, even when it is someone we love, there is something of a triumph for the survivor. Added to the impact of the traumatic event is the task of mourning, for others and the self - for the person's lost world, pre-trauma life and identity, as well as guilt feelings. Freud also compared the fear of losing one's own life with the fear of taking someone else's life.

Rebecca's trauma appears when her father had an accident, she is worried and scared. She could not accept the reality that her father is now in his bed of pain. She could not hide her feelings and expression that she is helpless without her father. When she heard that Max got an accident she shouted out loud as if she could not stand her ground anymore.

*Rebecca menatap wajah Andrew yang dipenuhi kesedihan. "Kau harus pulang sekarang juga," kata Andrew, suaranya serak. "Ada kecelakaan. Rebecca, Max..."*

*Apa yang terjadi selanjutnya tidak jelas dalam ingatan Rebecca. Sesaat ia menggeleng sekeras-kerasnya, sambil menjerit, "Tidak! Tidak! Tidak!" (Shelby, 1988:26).*

*Sejak tiga minggu sejak Rebecca membawa Max kembali ke Skyscape, ia telah berusaha menciptakan semacam keteraturan dalam kehidupan. Tapi segala yang disukainya-berenang dan menyelam, berkuda menyusuri jalan setapak yang seakan tanpa ujung diatas kudanya-telah kehilangan makna. Walaupun dokter telah menasihatinya agar tidak menenggelamkan diri dalam tragedy ayahnya, Rebecca jarang meninggalkan Skyscape lebih dari beberapa jam. Setiap kali pergi ia selalu membawa foto ayahnya yang terbaring di ranjang, tidak berdaya. Seperti magnet, bayangan ini selalu menariknya kembali.*

*Waktu kehilangan arti. Hari demi hari berlalu dan rasanya takkan pernah berakhir. Setiap kali Rebecca memikirkannya ia melihat hal yang kurang lebih sama: jam-jam kosong yang sunyi dan menjebakknya dalam efektifnya seperti menjebak ayahnya (Shelby, 1988: 39).*

*Kebenaran mengenai kematian ayahnya menghancurkan cadangan terakhir kekuatan Rebecca (Shelby, 1988:58).*

Rebecca gazes at Andrew's eyes which are full of sadness. "You have to return home now," Andrew said in a husky voice. "An accident had happened. Rebecca, Max..."

What happened next is not clear in Rebecca's memory. She shakes her head and screams out loud "No! No! No!" (Shelby, 1988:26).

"For three weeks when Rebecca brought Max back to Skyscape, she had hardly tried to create a disciplined lifestyle. But everything that she likes to do such as swimming and diving, riding a horse along the narrow trail-seem meaningless to her. Though the doctor already advised her not to lose herself in her father's tragedy, Rebecca still refuse to leave Skyscape for more than a few hours. Every time she goes out she always brings her father's picture which is lying helpless on his bed of pain. Just like a magnet, the imagination pulls her back.

Time is meaningless. Days passed by and it seems to be endless. Every time Rebecca thinks about him she sees the same case and problem: emptiness and loneliness framed her in her effective time just like when her father was framed" (Shelby, 1988: 39).

"The truth about her father's death damaged the very last strength that she has within herself" (Shelby, 1988:58).

When she stays beside her father who is lying helpless on his bed, she holds his hands and asks him why you do this to me? She protests why Max should get an accident. She has uncompleted dreams that she wants to complete together with her father. She is stilling much in need of her father; the relationship between Rebecca and Max is as beautiful as the proper relationship between a daughter and a father. However, everything now starts to change when this accident happened. She has to struggle to eliminate the fears and anxieties within herself; the fears and the anxieties of being left alone, of losing Max forever.

**b. Marriage conflict**

Turner, McFarlane, and Van der Kolk (1996: 541) write: “The process of entering and maintaining a treatment relationship is always extremely complex. However, it becomes even more so when a person has been humiliated, hurt, and betrayed, often by people whom the person counted on to provide safety and protection”.

After her marriage to Andrew Stoughton, Rebecca thinks that she has regained her strength to continue her life after the death of her father Max McHenry. With Andrew, she will face every obstacle that would come her way. She entrusted the big responsibility to Andrew as the head director of McHenry Enterprises. She trusts him so much that she even gives the power and the control to Andrew to manage the business left by her late father. To her surprise now Andrew has changed to be another person unworthy of trust. Here their marriage conflict begins when Andrew has gained everything from Rebecca, then he betrayed her by having another woman. These changes in Andrew's behavior caused another psychological pain to her.

*“Meskipun bau makanan yang sangat mengundang, bercampur bau segar dari kebun, membuat perut Rebecca bergemuruh, ia menyadari bahwa ia tidak mampu menyantap lebih dari beberapa sendok. Ia terus bertanya-tanya sendiri kenapa Andrew begitu pendiam, hampir-hampir tertutup. Rebecca mengingat kembali rincian kejadian semalam, berusaha mengetahui dimana ia mungkin telah melakukan kesalahan.*

*Tidak, bukan itu, pikir Rebecca memutuskan. Tapi satu-satunya alternatif yang bisa dipikirkannya membuat darahnya bagai membeku. Mungkinkah Andrew memiliki wanita lain? Mungkinkah Andrew bahkan sudah menikah diam-diam?” (Shelby, 1988: 76).*

"Though the good odor of the food and the fresh fragrance from the garden makes her feel hungry, yet she realizes that she cannot eat well. She continues asking herself why Andrew becomes so taciturn, almost conservative. Rebecca calls to mind in detail what had happened the previous night, maybe she had made a mistake.

No, she decided. But the only alternative about what she is thinking about makes her feel so frozen. Maybe Andrew has another woman? Maybe Andrew already got married?" (Shelby, 1988: 76)

After facing some internal conflict in her, now Rebecca’s worries about Andrew have come to be real. She captured by herself the big wedding feast of Andrew to another woman namely Celeste Lambros, the granddaughter of Silas Lambos who is Max’s McHenry enemy. Then Rebecca realized that Andrew’s ambition is to take over McHenry Enterprises. This event caused so much pain to her.

*“Dengan perasaan ngeri, Rebecca mengawasi saat pasangan pengantin baru itu berbalik untuk memandang para tamu mereka. Walaupun beras dan confetti menghujani mereka, Rebecca melihat Celeste Lambros mengenakan gaun putih yang melambai-lambai,*

*melangkah turun dari gazebo. Disampingnya terdapat mempelai prianya, Andrew Stoughton” (Shelby, 1988: 108).*

"With horrifying feeling, Rebecca saw the new couple while they turned to their guests. Rebecca saw Celeste Lambros in a white wedding dress and next to her is Andrew Stoughton” (Shelby, 1988:108).

**c. *Losing faith in love***

According to Van der Kolk (1987), the essence of psychological trauma is the loss of faith that there is order and continuity in life. Age and previous life experiences will profoundly affect the person's interpretation of the meaning of the trauma. Many traumatized individuals, particularly children, tend to blame themselves for having been traumatized. Assuming responsibility for the trauma allows feelings of helplessness and vulnerability to be replaced with an illusion of potential control.

The memory of the past and the attempt to reverse the past makes Rebecca a traumatized figure. A central aspect of her trauma is a longing for such an idealized man as well as an ideal world that is preserved through emotionally saturated memories of the past, and Rebecca indeed most intensely encountered her trauma when she could not keep Andrew in her life. When Rebecca first meets Andrew, she is overwhelmed by his youth, his handsomeness, and his capability. At that time, Rebecca is simply a student who is depicted as a strong, feminine, and brave girl. She tries to win this handsome and capable man, Andrew Stoughton. However, in contrast to his great desire to gain treasure and power Andrew betrays Rebecca by marrying another woman who is at the same time Rebecca's enemy Celeste Lambros.

Andrew's betrayal leaves a deep trauma to Rebecca. Rebecca does not believe any man for some time in her life because she still feels the pain caused by Andrew's betrayal. The necklace that was given by Andrew as a symbol of love forces her to pay an act of revenge for everything he had done to her.

When Dallas Gibson comes to share life and love with her, she does not accept Dallas right away. Whenever she tries to forget her past but she cannot deny that the pain is still there. Though Dallas's presence makes her feel good and comfortable she still does not know how to give Dallas space in her life. She forces herself to set aside those feelings and spent more time setting a plan to defend herself from danger and make sure that she would be able to punish whoever caused Max's death.

*Setiap kali kesepian mengancam dan menguasainya, saat ia begitu merindukan kehadiran Dallas di sampingnya, Rebecca selalu memandang kuda lautnya dan kalung itu menngingatkannya akan janjinya kepada Max bahwa pada suatu hari nanti ia akan membalas dendam dan memastikan orang yang bersalah di hokum (Shelby, 1988: 238).*

*“Kau mau bercerita tentang Dallas?”*

*Rebecca merasa tergoda. Ia berulang kali memikirkan Dallas sejak meninggalkan Angelines. Memikirkan Dallas membuatnya merasa hangat. Meskipun begitu, ia masih belum tahu bagaimana cara melibatkan Dallas dalam kehidupannya. Rebecca memaksa diri untuk tidak berharap, untuk membuang mimpi itu. Mimpi bisa berbahaya, fatal, dan bisa membuat seseorang tak berdaya. Menjadi korban (Shelby, 1988: 243)*

"Whenever loneliness threatens and overwhelms her, she yearns for Dallas's presence next to her, yet at the same time she looks at the necklace and it reminds her of her promise to Max that one day later she would pay revenge" (Shelby, 1988:238).

“Do you want to talk about Dallas?”

"She feels seduced. Many times she thinks about Dallas after leaving the Angelines. Thinking about Dallas makes her feel warm. Though she feels that way, she still has no idea about how to give a space for Dallas in her life. She forces herself not to trust, to set aside the dream. The dream could be dangerous, fatal, and could make someone helpless. Become a victim" (Shelby, 1988: 243).

#### **d. Love failures**

After the marriage failure now Rebecca has to face another failure in her relationship with men. Her relationship with Dallas Gibson ended in an accident set up by Silas Lambros to attack Rebecca and "The Tides". In his effort to save Rebecca and "The Tides" Dallas Gibson lost his life. Here Rebecca has to face another mourn over the person whom she loves.

*"Seorang pria yang lebih berarti baginya daripada yang telah disadarinya telah tewas untuk melindungi impiannya.*

*Cinta dan kepercayaan yang telah dihidupkan Dallas Gibson telah terhapus bersama kematiannya. Untuk mengurangi penderitaan akibat kehilangannya, Rebecca menyembunyikan kenangan tentang pria itu jauh-jauh, kembali ke kehampaan yang dikenalnya sejak pengkhianatan Andrew, kehampaan dimana tidak ada mimpi" (Shelby, 1988: 258).*

"A man who is more meaningful than she ever thought had died in his effort to save her. Love and trust which Dallas Gibson had revived in her had been erased together with his death. To reduce her suffering of losing him, Rebecca hides the memory about him, now she returns to the emptiness which she ever felt after Andrew's betrayal, the emptiness that has no dream" (Shelby, 1988: 258).

Then Rebecca comes to build a relationship with Eric Walker the owner of Walker Bank with whom Rebecca engaged in a cooperative business, yet her relationship with this man ended by Eric's betrayal toward Rebecca. Eric Walker obscures the amount of Rebecca's share to pay his debts. Another love failure is her relationship with Anthony Fabrizzi. This relationship also ended up in an accident. Tony Fabrizzi is killed in an Andrew-inspired explosion meant for Rebecca.

*"Sekalipun kehidupannya berlangsung cepat, beberapa bulan terakhir ini terasa sangat sepi. Pengkhianatan Eric hanya mempertajam kehampaan yang dirasakannya, menjadikan air mata yang diteteskannya untuk Dallas Gibson dan kenangan akan kelembutan pria itu semakin pahit. Tidak terelakkan lagi, Rebecca memandang Tony dari sudut pandang yang berbeda, sebagai seorang pria yang telah dengan berani memasuki kehidupannya dan mencegahnya melakukan kesalahan fatal" (Shelby, 1988: 429).*

"Though her life goes on so quickly, the last few months she feels so lonely. Eric's betrayal aggravated emptiness within her, the drop of tears for Dallas Gibson, and the memories about his kindness now have become so bitter. Unavoidable, Rebecca sees Tony from a different point of view as a man who bravely entered her life and prohibited her to do a big mistake" (Shelby, 1988: 429).

### **The Defense Mechanism applied by Rebecca Faced her Conflicts**

Trauma and self-defense mechanism are integrated. It means that the writer cannot explain trauma without giving further explanation about defense mechanisms because people with trauma will form some defense mechanisms consciously or unconsciously.

Anxiety or tension is our body's way of telling us that something is going wrong and we need to correct it. It is an essential signal, necessary for our survival and well-being. As has been explained before, Rebecca's anxieties bring her painful and uncomfortable feelings. Therefore, she needs to do something to reduce her anxieties. She uses defense mechanisms to defend herself from the overwhelming feelings that caused her anxieties.

#### **a. Repression**

Repression plays a central role in keeping painful memories and experiences out of the conscious mind. The mechanism of repression involves the most direct approach to avoiding the experience of anxiety. As a result of repression, the person is not aware of his anxiety-producing impulses or does not remember deeply emotional and traumatic past events.

Freud (1939) states that repression is the mechanism by which the unacceptable id impulses are kept in the unconscious and prevented from emerging as conscious thoughts or wishes. If a wish is repressed into the unconscious, the individual loses all awareness of the wish in her/his conscious mind. Repression is necessary either because the impulses are socially unacceptable, or because they would cause the individual great pain if they were expressed. Repression takes up a great deal of mental energy. It is because repression is often not wholly successful that hysterical symptoms or obsessions and phobias develop. Repression is the most important of the defenses which the ego employs to control the id.

Rebecca faced many internal conflicts in her especially those related to her psychological state. The death of the most precious person in her life caused her psychological pressure. She cannot accept that her father had got a fatal accident that put him to death. She has a lot of dreams to build a beautiful future with him, and now she has to face another reality. Here the conflict within her starts to rise and threaten her. Rebecca uses repression as a tool to face his psychological conflict. Rebecca's ego tries to determine what will be the best solution. Now she decided to regain her strength and courage to face reality and manage the Enterprises left by her father Max McHenry. It can be shown in the quotation of the novel:

*"Kau yakin sudah siap menghadapinya?" tanya Ramsey, sambil mengetuk arsip setebal tiga puluh sentimeter di atas meja kopi.*

*Rebecca menatap dokumen yang menggunung itu dan bergidik. Inikah akhir dari hidup seorang manusia?*

*"Aku ingin melakukannya sekarang," katanya berharap suaranya setegas yang dibayangkannya. "Tidak ada waktu yang lebih baik lagi." (Shelby, 1988: 46).*

"Are you sure that you are ready to face it?" Ramsey asked as he knocked the thick archives on the table.

Rebecca gazes at those documents and shudder.

Is this the end of a human's life?

"I want to do it now." She said hoping that her voice was as firm as what she imagined.

"There is no better time than now" (Shelby, 1988: 46).

#### **b. Introjections**

Introjections, sometimes called identification, involve taking into your personality characteristics of someone else because doing so solves some emotional difficulty.

Freud (1959) saw the resolution of the Oedipus complex as the prototype of introjection. During the Oedipal period, the young child introjects the authority and values of one or both parents—an introjection that sets into motion the beginning of the superego.

Rebecca, who is left alone by her father, may in some way try to become mature to lessen her fears. In the story of the novel, we can sometimes catch her telling herself not to be afraid and we find Rebecca imitating her favorite star Max McHenry, to establish her identity.

*“Aku tidak menyadari bahwa bagian hidupku yang itu sudah berakhir dan bagian yang lain dimulai..... bahwa aku takkan pernah mengenakan seragam lagi.*

*“Aku ingin belajar” kata Rebecca perlahan-lahan. Aku ingin mengetahui segala sesuatu tentang” McHenry Enterprises (Shelby, 1988:50).*

"I do not realize that the other part of my life is over and another part has been started..... Where I will not wear the uniform again.

"I want to learn," said Rebecca slowly. I want to know everything about McHenry Enterprises" (Shelby, 1988:50).

### c. Denial

Denial is just to deny an objectionable and painful reality. In denial, a person insists that the objectionable and painful reality did not happen and he believes that his denial is the fact.

When the ego anticipates impending shame or guilt or is overwhelmed by strong id impulses, it experiences anxiety, the ego uses defense mechanisms to avoid feeling anxious when it cannot remove the cause of the anxiety (Freud, 1955b). However, the ego's use of defense mechanisms comes at a price as they "deny, falsify, or distort reality" (Hall & Lindzey, 1957: 49).

Rebecca also uses denial of reality as self-defense. She uses it when she refuses the reality which happens in her life that her father is now on his bed of pain because of that accident.

When Rebecca hears the news about the accident that befalls Max, she does not believe it. She cannot believe that Andrew brings this bad news to her. The news is so shocking and terrifying for Rebecca. She feels angry and sad. This feeling bothers her so much that she does not want to believe the news and shout out loud as she could. She denies the reality. He does not want the news to be the reality because it hurts her so much. It can be shown in the story of the novel.

*“Aku bermimpi. Tidak satupun dari kejadian itu benar-benar terjadi. Aku akan membuka mata dan kembali berada di Angeline” (Shelby, 1988:75).*

*“Rumah megah dimana Max dibaringkan terbakar dan seorang pria membawa dalam pelukannya, sesuatu yang dibungkus seprai. “Oh, Tuhan, tidak, please, tidak!”*

*“Itu bukan dia!” “itu bukan ayahku!”*

*Dengan lembut Andrew membaringkan jenazah itu di dekat kakinya. Sebelum ia sempat menahannya, Rebecca telah menyingkapkan seprai dan memandang wajah ayahnya, mulut Max ternganga seolah masih berusaha menghirup napas. Rebecca menyentak kepala ke belakang dan menjerit, jeritannya melolong menembusi malam. Ia berteriak-teriak memanggil ayahnya.*

*Seperti penari yang berusaha melakukan gerakan yang mustahil, Rebecca merasakan dirinya jatuh, melarikan diri dari penderitaan dari kengerian yang ditimbulkan pemandangan mengerikan itu, wajah yang tadi merupakan wajah ayahnya” (Shelby, 1988: 41).*

"I am dreaming. None of those events has happened. I will open my eyes and I find myself in Angeline" (Shelby, 1988:75).

"The luxurious house where Max is laid out is on fire and a man comes out of the fire carrying something in his embrace wrapped with a bedsheet.

"Oh my God, no, please, no!"

"It is not him" "It is not my father!"

Andrew puts the corpse near her feet. Andrew tries to stop her, but she already set away from the bedsheet and gazes at her father's face, Max's mouth open as if he is still trying to breathe. Rebecca pulls her head and screams, her scream howl through the night. She shouts calling her father.

Like a dancer who is trying to create impossible movement, Rebecca feels that she is falling running away from suffering from horrified which caused by the horrifying view, it was her father's face" (Shelby, 1988: 41).

Max is the one and the only person she has in her life. Max makes her feel so precious. He is the person who has satisfied her belongingness and the need for love. Therefore the feeling and the thinking of losing him and not being to see him on his bed of pain bother her so much. He is sort of a fascinating figure for her. She keeps on telling herself that Max's accident is just a nightmare.

#### **d. Fixation**

Psychical growth normally proceeds in a somewhat continuous fashion through the various stages of development. The process of psychologically growing up, however, is not without stressful and anxious moments. When the prospect of taking the next step becomes anxiety-provoking, the ego may resort to the strategy of remaining at the present, more comfortable psychological stage. Such a defense is called fixation. Technically, fixation is the permanent attachment of the libido onto an earlier, more primitive stage of development (Freud, 1963).

In facing life, someone is faced with an under-pressure situation that makes frustration and anxiety, so he or she cannot stand with this circumstance anymore and make the development stop temporarily or permanently. In other words, someone is fixated on one level of development because the next level is full of anxiety.

In the story of the novel, we can see how Rebecca faced the under-pressure situation where her husband marries Celeste Lambros, the daughter of her father's enemy Silas Lambros. When Rebecca gets to know that Andrew's ambition is to take over McHenry Enterprises and that Andrew is Silas Lambros' accomplice, she was put under deep pressure. Now she blamed herself for having trusted Andrew so much. She was unconscious that Andrew's ambition is to take over the treasuries left by her father. Weird things keep happening and Rebecca cannot bear anymore with this situation. To stop her anxiety permanently, in the end, she sets a fatal trap for Andrew.

*"Andrew mendaki beberapa anak tangga terakhir dan tiba-tiba berhenti karena terpesona. Ia menghapus keringat di keningnya dan mengejapkan mata dengan cepat. Tapi bayangan itu tidak juga memudar. Tetap sempurna dalam segala hal. Tiba-tiba Andrew mulai menggigil tidak terkendali. Matahari telah lenyap dan kegelapan turun dengan cepat"* (Shelby, 1988: 499).

"While Andrew climbing the last stairs suddenly he stops. He dried his sweat in his forehead and closed his eyes quickly. But the shadow is still there. Suddenly Andrew starts to tremble as if the sun lost from his sight and darkness covered him" (Shelby, 1998:499).

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

This study is based on the Psychology of Literature and uses psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud in analyzing the data. Freud asserts that the structure of human personality consists of three important systems called id, ego, and superego. Based on the purpose of literature that is to give the reader awareness about life, the researcher tries to analyze psychological conflicts that happened to the main character as the representative of life.

The research was done by analyzing the conflict of the main character in the novel entitled *This Far from Paradise* by Philip Shelby in terms of the psychological aspect. The

analysis was done by studying the sentences or statements in the novel, either the direct or indirect sentences, which could indicate the personality of the main character.

The main character in “*This Far from Paradise*” novel is Rebecca. She has become a traumatic person after the death of her father Max McHenry. In her case, the trauma experiences influence her personality. The causes are the pressures and the emotional abuse from her father's enemies Andrew Stoughton and Silas Lambros. The pressures and the emotional abuse put her into suffering and this situation changes her personality.

After conducting the study in “*This Far from Paradise*” novel, the study can conclude some aspects. Here, the main character as the object of the study experiences some kinds of psychological conflict. The main character's psychological conflicts can be categorized into three kinds of psychological conflicts; they are trauma, anxiety, and defense mechanism.

While the writer also chooses three psychological conflicts that happened in the story in which these three psychological conflicts have a big influence on the main character's behavior. Based on psychoanalysis theory, psychological conflicts happen because the id, ego, and superego work unbalanced. The idea of the theory happens to the main character's psychological conflicts.

The writer also analyzes the defense mechanisms used by the main character to overcome her trauma and anxiety they are repression, introjections, fixation, and denial. Finally, the messages conveyed through the main character's psychological conflicts are bravery, struggle, and steadfastness. These moral values then indicate the theme of the novel that is about success. The success here is described as how the main character as a young generation or a teenager can solve the psychological conflicts she experiences in her life. The ability of Rebecca as the main character in solving her psychological conflicts leads her to be a good model as a teenager.

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