

JURNAL PIONEER

VOLUME 09, Issue 2, December 2017: 85-94

PSYCHOANALYSIS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS IN THE GREAT GATSBY BY NOVEL

Alif Alfia Ufil Rahayu

University of Abdurachman Saleh Situbondo
pinkygirls007@gmail.com

Abstract: In this qualitative research, the researcher only focused on the event or situation in the novel depicting lesbians and gays signs. The researcher used The Great Gatsby novel as an object in this research. This research was aimed at one main purpose it was to depict the sign of lesbians and gays in the story of The Great Gatsby. The utterances in the dialogue of The Great Gatsby were used as the main data. All of the data were analyzed by using Lois Tyson's theory. The results revealed that there were eight lesbian signs and seven signs of gay. In addition, the researcher got that there were conscious type was dominated sign in this novel. The researcher expected to the next researcher could be did research on the lesbian and gay signs with the different types of this research.

Keywords: lesbians and gays, psychoanalysis.

INTRODUCTION

Amsoriano18 (2017) says that literature falls into two major types : written and oral literature. Oral literature included ballads, myth, jokes, folktales and fables and written source had drama, novel, poetry and nonfictional literature. Novel was

kind of oral literature, ones of famous novel that the researcher took for this research was The Great Gatsby Novel.

Lesbian criticism was concerned with issues of personal identity and politics analogous to those analyzed by feminists.

However, while feminism addresses issues related to sexism and the difficulties involved in carving out a space for personal identity and political action beyond the influence of sexist ideologies, lesbian critics address issues related to both sexism and heterosexism. (Tyson, 1950:322).

This research was chosen because the researcher wanted observing about lesbians and gays sign depicted in *The Great Gatsby* novel. Moreover, *The Great Gatsby* novel was the amazing, romantic, and complicate novel which was good to be readed and learned.

Based on that, the researcher conducted this research based on oneresearch problem, it was how are the lesbians and gays sign depicted in the story of *The Great Gatsby* ? then, the research objectives to answer the research problem was to depict the sign of lesbians and gays in the story of *The Great Gatsby*.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Lesbian and Gay Criticism

Tyson (2006: 323) states that lesbian critics must deal with the psychological, social, economic, and

political oppression fostered not only by patriarchal male privilege, but also by heterosexual privilege as well. While, gay criticism was a man remains a macho a real man. As a “macho”, a man can had sex with both men and women. Lesbian critics also analyzed the sexual politics of specific texts by examining, for example, how lesbian characters or “masculine” women was portrayed in literature by and about lesbians. That there were two types of gay or lesbian signs, first was consisted of characteristics and second was coded signs created by the gay or lesbian subculture itself.

Psychoanalysis

According to the Freud in Storey (2009: 91), he divides the psyche into two parts, the conscious and the unconscious. While, according to Freud in Feist (2009: 23), he divides the main or level mental life into two, consciousness and unconsciousness the conscious, in turn had two different levels, the unconscious proper and the preconscious. In Freudian psychology the three levels of mental life were used to designate both a process and a

location. The following were three levels of these:

Unconscious

The unconscious all those driven, urged, or instinct that was beyond our awareness but motivate most of our word, feelings, and action. Although we might be conscious of our overt behaviors, we often was not aware of the mental processes that lay behind them. For example, a man might knew that he was attracted to woman but might not fully understood all the reason for the attraction, some of which might even seem irrational.

Preconscious

The preconscious levels of mind contain all those element that was not conscious but can become conscious either quite readily or with some difficulty (Feist, 2009: 25). The content of the preconscious came from two sources, the first of which was conscious perception. The second source of preconscious images of the unconscious. Freud believed that the ideas can slip past the vigilant censor and enter into the preconscious in a disguised form.

Conscious

Consciousness, which played a relatively minor role in psychoanalytic, could be defined as those mental elements in awareness at any given point in time (Feist, 2009: 23). Freud said that there were three provinces of the mind; id, ego and superego. These province or regions had no territorial existence of course, but were merely hypnotically constructs. They interact with the three levels of mental life so that the ego cut across the various topographic levels and had conscious, preconscious and unconscious components, whereas the superego was both preconscious and unconscious and the id was completely unconscious (Feist, 2009: 27). The three provinces as below:

Id

The id, according to Freud was core of personality and completely unconscious was the psychical region which was called by id, it had no contact with reality, but it strived constantly to reduce tension by satisfying basic desires (Feist, 2009: 27).

Otherwise id was the only function to seek pleasure. We said that the id served the principle pleasure. The id was the most primitive part of the personality. It was the original system with which the newborn infant came equipped. The id did not know right from wrong and it had no perspective on the possibilities and impossibilities of the real world, and also had no inhibitions. (Freud, 1923: 11).

Ego

Ego was only region of the mind in contact with reality (Feist, 2009: 29). It was gowned out of the id during and youth became a person's sole source of communication with the external world. It was determined by the reality principle of the id, which it tries to substitute for the pleasure principle of the id. Because ego was reality principle based, the fulfillment was through secondary process (Feist, 2009: 29).

Superego

In Freudian psychology, the superego represented the moral and ideal aspects of personality and guided by the moralistic and idealistic

principles as opposed to the pleasure principle of the ego. The superego grown out of the ego, and like the ego, it had no energy of its own. However, the superego differed from the ego, in one important respect. It had no contact with the outside world and therefore was unrealistic in it was demanded for perfection. It meant that the ideal figure which was purposed was not realistic. When it was not realistic for fulfilling desire or drives, superego was not realistic in fulfilling the ideal figure or perfection.

Superego had two subsystems. They are the conscience and ego-ideal. Freud did not clearly distinguish between these two functions, but, in general, the conscience results from experiences with punishment for improper behavior and told us what we should not do, whereas the ego-ideal developed from experience with reward for proper behavior and told us what we should do (Feist, 2009: 30).

The Great Gatsby Novel

The Great Gatsby Novel was one of the most famous novels by the

American author F. Scott Fitzgerald. First published in 1925, it was set on Long island's North Shore and in New York City from spring to autumn of 1922. The novel took place following the First War World. American society enjoyed prosperity during the "roaring" 1920s as the economy soared. At the same time, prohibition, the ban of sell manufacture of alcohol as mandated by the Eighteenth Amendment, made milionairis out of bootleggers. After it was republishing in 1945 and 1953, it quickly found a wide readership and today widely regarded as paragon of the Great American Novel, and literary classic.

METHODOLOGY

This research was conducted by using the qualitative method. The data used in this research were in the form of descriptive. The researcher looked for and took the data from The Great Gatsby novel by F.Scott Fitzgerald. Data was important part for managing a research, so data must be collected effectively and completely as the researcher needed as much as possible. In collecting data for the research were based on library

research or qualitative research method.

The steps of collecting data were read the novel entitled The Great Gatsby a few times, collected data the data it was included to the sign of lesbians and gays and noted down the data in the table of data collection. To analyze the data, the researcher used some theories from expert. First, the theory of psychoanalysis from Sigmund Freud and The theory of Lesbians and gays from Lois Tyson (1950). There were some steps to analyze the data: identified the data based on the types, explained or described the data and made conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

Based on Tyson (1950:340), there were two type of gay or lesbian signs. The first type consisted of characteristics that heterosexist culture stereotypically associated with gay men or lesbians, such as might be evident, for example, in the appearance and behavior of "feminine" male characters or "masculine" female characters. The

second type were coded signs created by the gay or lesbian subculture itself.

The findings in this research were some data which was determined into the sign included to lesbians and gays in the novel. The findings of the sign was showed in the Table 1.

Table 1 Result of Lesbians and Gays Sign in The Great Gatsby novel with The Types.

| No | Kinds of Sign | Unconscious | Preconscious | Conscious | First Type | Second Type | Total Data |
|----|---------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. | Gay | 2 | - | 8 | 10 | - | 10 |
| 2. | Lesbian | - | - | 10 | 10 | - | 10 |
| | Total | | | | | | 20 |

Datum 1

Analogously, Jordan Baker, whose name could belong to a man or a woman, was associated with numerous lesbian signs. She made her living in the male domain of professional golf. Then in the first meet, Nick says :

“I enjoyed looking at her. She was a slender, small-breasted girl, with an erect carriage, which she accentuated by throwing her body backward at the shoulders like a young cadet.”

(001/TGG/13)

Based on the text above that pointed out of lesbian sign of Jordan Baker, that told Jordan's appearance

as man or masculine character. Where woman appearance most showed by sexy and graceful body. It was showed lesbian sign because Jordan was the opposite of general woman. In the sentence “her body backward at the shoulders like a young cadet” showed lesbian sign because as the researcher talked most of woman appearance as young queen or princess. This data included to conscious type because she was conscious with her appearance.

Datum 2

Mr. McKee's signs included feminine appearance, on the other hand, Mrs. McKee was the masculine. Aggressive, overbearing, handsome was qualities of Mrs. McKee. It told when Nick came to McKee bedroom. “His wife was shrill, languid, handsome, and horrible.”

(002/TGG/34)

Based on the text above that pointed out of lesbian sign of Mrs. McKee, it was told that Mrs. McKee characterization as man. It was showed at the sentence “shrill, languid, handsome, and horrible”. Generally, woman characterization was soft, beautiful and good looking.

While, most lesbian sign showed by woman who had man characterization. This data included to consious type because she was consious with her characterization.

Discussion

After the researcher found the result of data analysis, the researcher compared the result with the previous results of researches. There were prevoious studies first Istighfarin's research and second Prananda's research from University of Abbdurahman Saleh Situbondo.

There are many differently found between this research, Istighfarin's and Prananda's research. The researcher found 10 data of the sign of lesbians and 10 data of the sign of gays. Overall the researcher data were 20 data. That all of the data included to the first type, it consisted of characteristics that heterosexist culture stereotypically associated with gay men or lesbians. Then the researcher also found two gays sign as unconscious type and eight gays sign as consious type. While, 18 lesbians sign as consious type. Whereas Istighfarin found there were seven data of utterances that

contained psychoanalytic feminism. On the other hand, Prananda found in literature and understood the inner conflict was experienced by the main character in the literature.

Then, those differences depanded on the novel which analized, the researcher found the signs of lesbian and gay because in the novel most dominant to those signs. While, in the Istighfarin and Prananda's, the novel most dominant to feminism and inner conflict because many novel had many differences situation. Especially, The Great Gatsby novel could be produced many result depanded on the theory of the research.

CONCLUSSION AND SUGGESTION

Based on analysis of the lesbians and gays sign in The Greats Gatsby novel. The researcher found that Jordan Baker was lesbian it was showed by eight lesbian signs, one lesbian sign of Mrs. McKee and also two lesbians signs of two girls in the Gatsby's party. Whereas, the gays sign was showed by Gatsby, Nick and Mr. McKee. Gatsby's showed it in the seven signs of gay. While, Nick and

Mr. McKee showed two gay signs. Those data included to conscious and unconscious type which two gay signs showed by Nick and Mr. McKee included to unconscious type while another gay signs showed by Gatsby and Nick that included to conscious type. On the other hand, all lesbians sign that included conscious type showed by Jordan and two girls in Gatsbys' party. So, the researcher got there were conscious type was dominate sign in this novel.

From this research the researcher had many suggestions for the next researcher related to the psychoanalysis of the lesbians and gays in The Great Gatsby novel. The next researcher could be found the sign of lesbians and gays from The Great Gatsby Novel or another novel, the signs could be look from the situation or event of the novel. But, the next researcher could be taken from another approach, another data sources, another theory from different experts, and also from different research data.

REFERENCES

- Amsoriano18. (2017). *Types of Literature.doc-Types of Literature Literature...*, Retrieved May 5, 2017 from <https://www.coursehero.com/file/20876680/types-of-literaturedoc/>
- Barry Peter. (1995, 2002). *Beginning theory, an introduction to literary and cultural theory Second edition*.
- Dias, P.C. (2013). *PhD in Psychoanalysis Presented At Goldsmiths*. London: University of London.
- Feist, Jest and Feist, J Gregory. (2009). *Theories of personality (seventh edition)*. McGraw-Hill.
- Fitzgerald, F.S. (1925). *The Great Gatsby Novel*.
- Istigfarin, G.D. (2016). *Psychoanalysis Feminism of the Main Character in Siti Nurbaya Novel by Marah Rusli*. Situbondo University. Unpublished Thesis. Situbondo: Abdurachman Saleh Situbondo University.
- Prananda, E. (2014). *An Analysis of the Social Values and the Psychological Conflict of the Main Character in Maertel's Life of Pi*. Unpublished Thesis. Situbondo: Abdurachman Saleh Situbondo University.
- Storey, J. (2009). *Cultural Theory And Popular Culture. An Introduction (Fifth ed)*. University of Sunderland.
- Tyson, L. (2006). *Critical Theory Today (2nd ed.)*. New York: Routledge.

| | |
|---|--|
| Zisykien, Farah Adnia. (2016). <i>Psychoanalysis of Main Character in Chasing Montana novel.</i> English Department, | Faculty of Humanities. State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. |
|---|--|