

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Stephen Chbosky's *Wonder* is an impactful film. This film is packed in almost a two-hours-duration and release on 14 November 2017 in the United States of America. Produced by Lionsgate in association with Walden Media, TIK Films, and Mandeville Films, *Wonder* became the most heartwarming and phenomenal film in the genre consisting of family drama. This film shows mostly about the development of a child who is struggling to accept the lack of self that the character is going through. Not only that, many studies could be taken from this film, the psychological element that is prominent to the story makes this film credible as a reference to psychology and literature psychology studies.

The point of interest in the film can be taken into the area of psychology. In the film, there is character development of the main character which is influenced by the supporting characters, in this film the sub-characters can be classified into the protagonist and the antagonist. The rivalry of influence from the protagonist and the antagonist as well as the character development of the main character becomes the center of the study in this undergraduate thesis.

This study is intended to describe the psychoanalytic structure of the Id, Ego, and Superego of August Pullman as the main character in the film *Wonder* (2017). To

describe the psychoanalytic structure, the writer adopts the concept of literature and psychology explained by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren. Because the story is about a film, the writer also adopts the concept of film theory by Toby Miller.

In the description the writer uses qualitative research to analyze the data and library research is used to acquire the references of the study from journals, articles, books, and the film itself that is available. The result of the research is used to describe the assumptions of the discussion in this study. The discussion of the study comes into three stages. One is August Pullman's Id, Ego, and Superego and the Ego defense mechanism. Two, it is about the influence between the protagonist and the antagonist. Three, it is about the development of the psychoanalytic structure of the main character.

## **1.2 Research Problems**

Based on the story of the film, the followings are the formulation of research problems:

1. How is August Pullman's Id, Ego, and Superego described?
2. Why is the main character's development of psychoanalytic structures could be influenced by the protagonist and the antagonist?
3. How is the main character development of psychoanalytic structures described?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The purpose of the study is:

1. To analyze the Id, Ego, and Superego of August Pullman throughout the story.
2. To describe the protagonist and the antagonist's influence on the development of the main character's psychoanalytic structures.
3. To describe the main character's development of the psychoanalytic structure in the story.

### **1.4 Previous Study**

To write this study, the writer does research on studies that are related to the object of this study or discussion references about *Wonder* (2017) to gain more knowledge. The writer got five previous studies for this writing that is related to the objects and the problems that occur in this study.

The first study is a thesis by Yosevin Sekar Ayu Putrihadi entitled *The Influence of Female Characters to the Development of Auggie in Palacio's Wonder*. This study explains how the influence of the female characters present in the novel *Wonder* created by R.J. Palacio. Every female character has a great influence on the development of August Pullman's character in living his life as a child who has physical appearance deficiencies. The female characters consist of Isabel Pullman as Auggie's mother, Olivia Pullman as the older sister, and Summer Dawson as Auggie's

friend at school. This study discusses how the development of Auggie's character and personality is influenced by these four female characters. Not only had that, in this study Yosevin also discussed the personalities and characters of these four female characters. Then Yosevin explains in this study how Auggie's development was influenced by environmental changes, important people, social pressure, and strong motivation (Yosevin, 2020).

The Second previous study that the writer uses as a reference for this study is a thesis by Rama Gunawan Sitinjak entitled *The Impact of Tony's Existence to Donald's Character Development in Green Book Film*. The author uses this study as a reference in writing this study even though in this case there are similar topics but with different objects and characters. There are differences that the writer found, in this previous study the writer saw that there were things namely the character, background, personality traits, and environment which were very slightly different. The similarities in these two studies are supporting characters who have a very large and significant influence on the development of the character and personality of the characters that are being analyzed. In his study, Rama Gunawan explains how Tony's influence has a positive impact on Donald, which provides new experiences and new perceptions for Donald's Superego personality elements, which also depletes his excessive idealism (Rama, 2020).

The Third previous study, a thesis by Sarah Al Annisa Arsyah entitled *The Balance Personality Structure Reflected on August Pullman in Wonder Film Script*.

This study focuses on the elaboration of characterization, plot and setting within the balanced personality structure.

The Fourth previous study, a thesis by Farah Dibaj entitled *August Pullman's Self-Identity as Disabled Person in Stephen Chbosky's Wonder Film*. This thesis describes and explains about the three self-identity components containing self-image, self-esteem, and self-ideal of August Pullman's character.

The Fifth previous study, a thesis by Afina entitled *An Analysis Bullying Faced by August Pullman in Wonder Film (2017): A Psychoanalytic Approach*. This thesis mostly elaborates about the bullying that August Pullman received from his friends in school and the effect of bullying towards August Pullman's id, ego, and Superego.

The writer uses all of the previous studies above to provide information that can be used in order to make this study more comprehensive. The writer finds that the differences of the topic of this study from the previous studies before is that this study is focusing more to the explanation of main character, the protagonist, and the antagonist characteristics, the rivalry of the protagonist and the antagonist that influence the psychoanalytic structure of the main character, also the development of the main character's psychoanalytic structure affected by the dominant character from the rivalry.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

The scope of this study, focuses in the personality structure, ego defense mechanism and character development of the main character also personality of

August Pullman in Stephen Chbosky's *Wonder* film, with the influence of the protagonist and the antagonist character on the main character. The writer limits the scope of the research by only focusing on the development of psychoanalytical structure of the main character based on Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis theory.

## **1.6 Organization of Writing**

In this part of the study, the writer divides the study into four chapters as follows:

### CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the study, research problems, the previous study, the objective of the study, the scope of the study, and the organization of writing of the study.

### CHAPTER 2 THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter contains the writer describing the theories that are used for this study. Theories of film study by George Bluestone containing the theory that will be used to analyze the objects of this studies. Theories of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud, concept and definitions will be briefly described by the writer to elaborate the theory with the discussion of the paper.

### CHAPTER 3 DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter contains the writer explanation of the result and data analysis of the study by using the method and theory of Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis that described earlier to analyze the topic.

#### CHAPTER 4 CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the final result of the discussion of the study.