

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Humans have three different levels of consciousness which affects the level of desire that humans have, as well as how humans turn those desires into reality. Other than the conscious one which deals with the drive of humans to ensure the desire and the needs for food, water, love, sex, and many more, there are also the unconscious stage and preconscious stage.

According to Freud, the unconscious deals with larger and invisible portions below the surface. Here, desires and wishes may control human behaviors. The unconscious contains the major driving power behind all behaviors and is the repository of forces humans cannot see or control. Between these two levels is the preconscious where all the memories, mostly from the conscious, can be recalled if it has not been repressed. Freud stated that the unconscious creates the ideas in the formation of wishes that is not easy to disappear from humans since it is formed by the instincts. In the conscious, those wishes are processed to be obeyed or rejected (Schultz, Duane P and Sydney Ellen Schultz, 2015: 45).

The three stages of consciousness mentioned correspond with the structure of personality; Id, Ego, and Superego. Id relies on the pleasure principle. Ego relies on the principle. Superego relies on the pleasure-seeking. As the one who navigates Id and Superego, when Ego feels threatened, it may generate anxiety. Anxiety is a feeling which causes humans to feel oppressed by reality which is characterized by feeling tension, freedom, and stress. There are three categories of

anxiety, which are neurotics, moral, and reality anxiety. To get rid of anxiety, humans use defense mechanisms as a protection of any danger or threat (Schultz, Duane P and Sydney Ellen Schultz, 2015: 68).

The writer focuses on Nina Riva's divided personality to analyze. As a main character in *Malibu Rising* novel, Nina has her own spotlight which revolves around the other characters. Nina exhibits an urge to use defense mechanisms as a defense against an anxiety caused by her unbalanced personality. In navigating Nina's Id and Superego, her Ego must control the Id's desires to achieve a moral code of Superego.

It is necessary to discover the importance of three structures of personality in humans since it is the core to live a well-adjusted life. The writer elaborates the relation between the structure of personality and defense mechanism by analyzing Nina Riva's personalities and traits.

1.2 Research Questions

The research questions of this study are as follows:

1. How are the structures of Nina Riva's personality divided in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel?
2. How is the psychoanalysis conflict between Nina Riva and other characters depicted in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel?
3. How do anxieties affect the defense mechanism of Nina Riva in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel?
4. How do defense mechanisms used by Nina Riva's as a way to cope with her anxieties in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To describe structures of the personality of Nina Riva in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel.
2. To analyze psychoanalysis conflict between Nina Riva and other characters in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel.
3. To analyze the relation between anxiety and defense mechanisms of Nina Riva in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel.
4. To discuss Nina Riva's defense mechanisms as a way to cope with her anxieties in Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Malibu Rising* novel.

1.4 Previous Studies

The writer did not find any academic thesis about *Malibu Rising*, but there are ten similar studies found from blogs and articles about *Malibu Rising*. The studies mostly examine the plot and the character depicted in the novel.

Jenn writes the review of *Malibu Rising* on her blog, *the-bibliophile*. The review discusses the summary in general and how the chapters in the story are not integrated into one another.

Jen Ryland talks through *Malibu Rising* review on her blog, *jenryland.com*. Jen deliberates the characters in the novel, as well as their characteristics that make their roles in the story more obvious.

Cath in her blog, *cups and thoughts*, writes a review of *Malibu Rising*. Cath is focusing on the writing style of Taylor Jenkins Reid the author of the

novel. Cath discusses how the characters seem relatable with their human reactions in facing the struggles of life even though their background is set in fancy-famous living.

Luke on his blog, *lukeharkness.com*, considers the plot of *Malibu Rising* which appears to be a little slow and dull in the middle of the story. Luke also talks about how the characters are enchanting and enjoyable to explore.

Kirkus, a book review magazine, writes a review about *Malibu Rising* on their blog. This review analyzes the dynamic between the Rivas siblings and how the family members deal with their flawed characters.

Linda on her blog, *quips and quotes*, discusses the upbringing of Nina Riva's life which shapes her life. According to Linda, the story is focusing on various forms of love owned by the characters.

Marta Paraschiv on *The Nerd Daily* blog discusses the bonds between the family portrayed in *Malibu Rising*. The discussion also follows the conflicts that come to terms with the characters' traumas and how they shaped their personality as a person, especially Nina Riva as the main character. This review also talks about how the shallow side of fame and Hollywood lives are excessively portrayed which then dissociates the reader from the main conflict of the novel.

Katherine Rosman on *The New York Times* blog writes a review about the background of celebrity culture and family drama portrayed in *Malibu Rising*. There is also a brief explanation about the author, Taylor Jenkins Reid.

Stephenie Harrison analyzes the novel on *the BookPage* blog, discussing how the hedonistic life of a Hollywood celebrity is portrayed in *Malibu Rising* which entrances the reader's empathy.

Madeleine Feeny on the *Evening Standard* blog discusses the revelation and reckoning of the unrevealed secrets in *Malibu Rising* and how the tension in the novel makes the story enticing to explore.

In this study, the writer elaborates on the characterization of Nina Riva, the main character in the novel. Furthermore, this study will elaborate on the structure of the personality of Nina Riva which then leads to the defense mechanism as a protection against her anxiety.

The difference between the previous studies compared to this study is that this study focuses on examining the psychoanalysis aspect of the main character in *Malibu Rising* novel. The writer analyzes the structure of Nina Riva's personality which leads to the defense mechanism whereas previous studies have not specifically focused on.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The scope of the study is to examine both intrinsic and extrinsic analysis reflected in the *Malibu Rising* novel by Taylor Jenkins Reid. The intrinsic analysis consists of the main character's personality, meanwhile the extrinsic analysis consists of the structure of personality, psychoanalysis conflict, anxiety, and defense mechanisms of the main character.

1.6 Writing Organization

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

The first chapter of this research consists of the background of the study, research questions, the objective of the study, previous studies, the scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHOD

The second chapter explains the theoretical frameworks and methods of the research in analyzing this study.

CHAPTER III: ANALYSIS

The third chapter of this study consists of the analysis of the novel both from intrinsic and extrinsic elements.

CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION

The fourth chapter defines the conclusion of the analysis in its entirety.