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DYSFUNCTIONAL BEHAVIOUR EXHIBITED BY HEATHCLIFF IN EMILY BRONTE'S WUTHERING HEIGHTS.

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Abstract	Article information
<p>The aim of this study is to find the cause of dysfunctional behavior through the basic concepts of the character Heathcliff from the novel <i>Wuthering Heights</i> by Emily Bronte. The writer uses Sigmund Freud's theory and Lois Tyson's approach to dysfunctional behavior to analyze the basic concept of the male main character. The method of this study is that the writer used a qualitative method using the novel <i>Wuthering Heights</i>, edition 2010, as the data: dialog, monologue, and author narration. To support the analysis, the writer uses journals and articles. The result of this study is that the writer found that Heathcliff experienced dysfunctional behavior as shown in basic concepts such as the family as the cause of his revenge, repression and the unconscious as the cause of his defense mechanism, which is displacement, and an unhealthy relationship, which made him suffer from his own behavior until his death.</p> <p>Keywords: <i>Basic Concept, Emily Bronte, Psychoanalysis, Wuthering Heights</i></p>	<p><i>Received:</i> 22 August 2023</p> <p><i>Revised:</i> 1 November 2023</p> <p><i>Accepted:</i> 30 December 2023</p>

Introduction

Literature or English Literature is the study of texts from around the world written in English. Literary work is an author's expression; through literary works, an author expresses his or her thoughts on life and the world around him. Literature is written with full appreciation and a soul touch, which is bundled in the literary work's imagination. Poetry, theatre, fiction, non-fiction, diaries, and songs are all examples of literature (Rinna, 2018). A novel is also a work of fiction,

with each character having the same environment, culture, and even personality as a genuine human being. Every piece of literature has a moral, psychological, or social backdrop and teaches the reader certain values to learn in life (Fabdriah & Zakrimal, 2017), whether from the characters in the novel or theater or the stories about life in songs and poems.

Every character's personality is related to human psychology. Psychology is the study of the human mind and behavior, and it is actively involved in

the understanding of mental illness processes, brain function, and behavior, as well as being closely related to the medical sciences, social sciences, and education. Every literary character can be analyzed using psychology because they exhibit human behavior or psychology. Personality is the way of thinking, feeling, and behaving that makes a person different from other people. An individual's personality is influenced by experiences, the environment, and inherited characteristics.

The purpose of this study is to examine the basic concept of Emily Bronte's work *Wuthering Heights*' principal male character, Heathcliff. This work depicts the main character's essential concepts, such as the family as the source of his vengeance, repression and unconscious that drive him to his destructive behavior, and the defenses that the main character employs. Heathcliff is Catherine Earnshaw's half-brother, although he adores Catherine as if she were his soulmate. Heathcliff, a young orphan adopted by a gentleman, quickly forms a close bond with his benefactor's daughter, Catherine Earnshaw, based on Tyson's (2011) description of "dysfunctional behavior," in which we put ourselves in unnecessary danger, get ourselves into trouble, or hurt the ones we love. As they struggle with Catherine's abusive and domineering brother, their connection becomes twisted, desperate, and possessive.

In this study, the main character, Heathcliff, is examined using Sigmund Freud's dysfunctional behavior and Lois Tyson's technique. The writer wanted to analyze the male main character of this novel to learn more about the cause of the male main character's dysfunctional behavior through the basic concept.

The qualitative research method was used in this study to collect data until the writer found the needed information. The main source of data for this study is Emilie Bronte's novel *Wuthering Heights*, which was published in 2010 and includes character dialog, narration, and monologue. The writer supports the analysis with journals, articles, and websites. Before deciding on the character to be analyzed, the writer must carefully read the data in the novel *Wuthering Heights*, and finally, the writer must use the internet to find data to support the analysis from articles and journals on websites.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the novel and the major character that will be analysed using Lois Tyson's theory, the writer found out that Heathcliff experienced Dysfunctional Behaviour and the writer discovers some finding as follows:

Finding

With the focus on the dysfunctional side of human behaviour, there is the most basic principles of psychoanalytic theory:

a. Basic Concept

i. The Family

Adult personality is the result of the emotional experience of a person while growing up, family is the most important source of early emotional experiences that affirm a person's being and those that harm psychologically because it is in the family that the sense of person way of relating to others are first established, psychological problems of some sort because some harmful emotional experiences (Tyson, 2011).

'... but Hindley hated him... He would stand Hindley's blows' (Wuthering Heights, 2010:39)

At the official introduction of Heathcliff to the family, Hindley hates him for receiving affection from his parents which makes Hindley mistreated and beat Heathcliff badly.

'Take my colt, gipsy, then!' said young Earnshaw, 'and I pray that he may break your neck; take him, and be damned, you beggarly interloper! And wheedle my father out of all he has: only, afterwards, show him what you are, imp of Satan—and take that, I hope he'll kick your brains!'

Heathcliff had gone to lose the beast, and shift it to his own stall—he was passing behind it, when Hindley finished his speech by knocking him under its feet, and without stopping examine whether his hopes were fulfilled, ran away as fast as he could' (Wuthering Heights, 2010:41)

After Heathcliff ask to Hindley to exchange the horse or he will show his scars to Hindley's father. Scared Hindley turned more violent and make Heathcliff receive more brush. In this case, family was the benefactor of Heathcliff's violence behaviours, his hatred towards Hindley is the

reason why Heathcliff lose his sanity. After Mr. Earnshaw died, Hindley become the head of the family and become tyranny which make him treat Heathcliff same like other servants;

Hindley became tyrannical. A few words from his wife, evincing a dislike to Heathcliff, were enough to rouse in him all his old hatred of the boy. He drove him from their company to the servants and insisted that he should labour out of doors instead (Wuthering Height, 2010:48)

Even though they were foster brother, Hindley's hatred towards Heathcliff as the reason of emotional experience for Heathcliff while he still growing up to adult.

i. Repression and the Unconscious

The clearest sign that an emotional problem is being repressed is the repetition of a self-destructive behaviour such as: choosing unhealthy friends or romantic partners, displaying inappropriate social behaviour, engaging in unwarranted violent behaviour, engaging in substance abuse. Most of these destructive behaviours show up in the way people may relate to others (Tyson, 2011)

'I've treated you infernally—and you'll take revenge! How will you take it, ungrateful brute? How have I treated you infernally?'

'I seek no revenge on you,' replied Heathcliff less vehemently. 'that's not the plan—the tyrant grinds down his slaves... you are welcome to torture me to death for your amusement, only, allow me to amuse myself a little in the same style... if I imagined you really wished me to marry Isabella, I'd cut my throat!' (Wuthering Heights 2010:118-119)

The relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine is brother and step-sister, they're so close, yet, Heathcliff want Catherine to be his soulmate, this unhealthy relationship between two characters makes Heathcliff states that he will cut his throat if Catherine still wished Heathcliff to marry Isabella, not only unhealthy relationship, this data above also proved that Heathcliff throwing a throwing a threat to Catherine due to marriage offer that she gave to Heathcliff.

'Do you suppose I'm going with that blow burning in my gullet?' he thundered. 'By Hell, no!'

I'll crush his ribs in like a rotten hazelnut, before I cross the threshold! If I don't floor him now, I shall murder him some time, so, as you value his existence, let me get a him!' (Wuthering Heights 2010:122)

The unhealthy relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine who already married to Edgar Linton, Heathcliff did not accept the fact that his love—Catherine was married and want to murder Edgar so Heathcliff can still be together with Catherine.

i. The Defenses

Defenses are the means by which people keep their selves from becoming conscious of the experiences they have repressed. However, as people grow older, their defenses become more destructive than helpful because they keep themselves from understanding and from healing their psychological wound (Tyson, 2011).

Displacement

Displacing the negative feeling about one person on someone else so that we can relieve the pain or anger without becoming aware of the real cause of the repressed feeling.

'... the first thing she saw me do was to hang up her little dog... the first words I uttered were a wish that I has the hanging of every being belonging to her... the nuisance of her presence outweighs the gratification to be derived from tormenting her!'

'Mr. Heathcliff,' said I, "this is the talk of a madman, and your wife, most likely is convinced you are mad..." (Wuthering Height 2010:159)

From this data above, Heathcliff using Isabella's dog to displacing his emotion towards Isabella's protest and used it as the warning about how he will treat her in the future. Not only his dog, he also will hang Isabella's stuff when she's rebel against Heathcliff.

Discussion

Heathcliff's Repression and the Unconscious

Heathcliff show that his emotional problem is being repressed, when Catherine asked Heathcliff to marry Isabel Linton, he giving a threat that he will cut his throat in response to disagreements;

'I seek no revenge on you,' replied Heathcliff less vehemently. 'That's not the plan – The tyrant grinds down his slaves and they don't turn against him, they crush those beneath them – You are welcome to torture me to death for your amusement, only, allow me to amuse myself a little in the same style – And refrain from insult, as much as you are able. Having levelled my palace, don't erect a hovel and complacently admire your own charity in giving me that for a home. If I imagined you really wished me to marry Isabella, I'd cut my throat!' (Wuthering Heights 2010: 118-119)

Most destructive behaviors show up in the way people relate to others, as someone who is madly in love will also throw a threat to their loved ones when they receive something unexpected or rejected by their loved one; Heathcliff thought he could be together with Catherine again, but then Catherine wished him to marry Isabel Linton and refused to be Heathcliff's soulmate. Moreover, their relationship is also unhealthy because Catherine was Heathcliff's sister and because Catherine's parents adopted Heathcliff when he was a child.

Heathcliff's Defense

Heathcliff primary defense is Displacement which Heathcliff displacing his negative feelings about one person on someone else to relieve the pain or anger;

'... the first thing she saw me do was to hang up her little dog... the first words I uttered were a wish that I has the hanging of every being belonging to her... the nuisance of her presence outweighs the gratification to be derived from tormenting her!'

'Mr. Heathcliff,' said I, "this is the talk of a madman, and your wife, most likely is convinced you are mad..." (Wuthering Height 2010:159)

Defenses are the means by which people keep their selves from becoming conscious of the experiences they have repressed. However, as people grow older, their defenses become more destructive than helpful because they keep (Tyson, 2011)

Heathcliff uses Isabella's dog as a threat when Isabella protests against him. Moreover, he also told her that it was his warning to Isabella about

how he would treat her in the future—not only her dog but also her other stuff. Since Isabella married him, he has been directing his rage at her. His attitude towards Isabella was just to make Edgar Linton feel desperate.

"... Don't put faith in a single word he speaks. He's a lying fiend, a monster, and not a human being! I've been told I might leave him before; and I've made the attempt, but I dare not repeat it! Only, Ellen, promise you'll not mention a syllable of his infamous conversation to my brother or Catherine whatever he may pretend... he shan't obtain it - I'll die first! I just hope, I pray that he may forget his diabolical prudence, and the single pleasure I can imagine is to die, or to see him dead!" (Wuthering Heights, 2010: 160)

From this dialog, it shown that Heathcliff's displacement shows in the scene where Isabella tells Ellen to be careful when she is still around Heathcliff. Isabella also shows her fear and anger towards Heathcliff because he displaced his anger to Isabella. Heathcliff channelling a thought or feeling form the original sources to something or someone else.

CONCLUSION

The character Heathcliff had three types of the basic concept that were identified by Lois Tyson's approach to the basic concept. The first is the family, which is influenced by Hindley's violent behavior. The second is repressed and unconscious, in which he chooses an unhealthy relationship with Catherine Linton, who is his stepsister, and wants her to be his partner in life. The third is displacement as his defense, Heathcliff displacing or channelling his negative feelings to someone else to relieve the anger. He uses Isabella's dog as a threat when he tries to protest against him and as a warning about how Heathcliff will treat him in the future.

From the discussion above, the writer can conclude that Heathcliff as the main character from the novel Wuthering Heights is experienced dysfunctional behaviour which make him suffer from his own fear and sometimes put himself at risk just to meet Catherine, how he relieves his anger and how Earnshaw family also had the important role for the main character development which led Heathcliff become violent

and heartless until everyone calls him a devil. His behaviour still continued after he takes revenge which leads him and the reader of the awesome ending of this novel.

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