The Personality Of Tifani Fanelli In Jessica Knoll's Novel Luckiest Girl Alive

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Accepted: 19 Maret 2022/ Approved 26 Juni 2022

Abstract

This study aimed to discover the personality and factors that influence TifAni FaNelli’s personality development in Jessica Knoll’s novel Luckiest Girl Alive. The data sources used in this study was novel Luckiest Girl Alive by Jessica Knoll. In analysing the data, the writer used descriptive qualitative method through psychology approach. Data were obtained by using the techniques of reading, noting, and analysing. Meanwhile in classifying the data, the writer used Adler’s Individual Psychology theory. The research reveal that the novel contained personalities of easily influenced, a liar, patient, innocent, obsession, a dreamer, forgiving, lack of confidence, loyal, jealousy, generous, trendy, emotional, and brave. While data that included factors, inferiority are, social interest, fictional final goal. So, the dominants personality were easily influenced, obsession, emotional, and inferiority factor.

Key words: Personality, Character, Psychology, Novel.

1. INTRODUCTION

Human being expressed the experience and imagination that each person had in so many ways. One of the ways was through literature, literature was a neat arrangement of words composed by a person based on the imagination which was the author can pour or expresses the idea, thoughts, emotion, and experiences and literature can also provide entertainment, new experience, and knowledge to the readers. Wellek & Warren (1949, p.11) state that literature is a creative art which is imaginative such as ‘fiction’ and ‘poetry’. The imaginative literature (belles lettres) itself means beautiful letters. Novel tells the story of a life that was similar to what were in real life or can be called illusion of reality, which serve readers a new life, a new experiences that will decoying the readers into some incredible situation which has the truth of reality in some deeper that it really is (Wellek & Warren, 1949, p. 220).

Nurgiyantoro (1995, p. 2-5) said that fiction offer a wide range of human and humanitarian issues, life and lives. The author appreciates these various issues with full seriousness which was then re-expressed through the means of fiction through his point of view. So even though it was just a fictional fabrication, it made sense and can contain truths that dramatize human relationships. According to Wellek and Warren (1949:224-229) novel as one of fictional work offers an idealized world, an imaginative world that is built through its intrinsic elements such as narration, theme, plots, characters, background, point of view and others that were imaginative so that it seems to exist and happen. The conflict would give a sense of curiosity and a sense of interest by the reader of course, this conflict can be traumatic to a person to the point affecting themselves. Usually in a novel, the most impacted was the main character.

The influence of the conflict experienced by the main character would be certainly disrupt the psychological of the main character. The main goal of psychology is to
understand human behavior, mental function, and emotional processes. Psychology explore concepts such as behavior, emotion, motivation, personality, etc. Personality itself is an interpersonal trait or behavior that distinguishes oneself from others. Burger (2000, p. 17) state that personality is a consistent behavior and it is an interpersonal-processes that come from the within of the individual. So, it can be concluded that psychology of personality is a science that studies the psychology strengths that make each individual look unique or different because of the personality.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In writing this research, the writer used some previous studies as references and to support the research. The writer also searched some other sources such as articles and books that related to this study.

2.1. Previous Studies

The writer found the same themes which is about the main character as references. First was Sawitri (2012) Method of Characterization and Three Dimensional Aspect of Main Character in Bronte’s Jane Eyre. In analyzing the character used William Kenney theory and Lajos Edri theory as a supporter. The study employs a mixing method to present the main character, it was dramatic method and character on other character. the result present that Jane’s character describes a social life indicated by helping, had a great responsibility for her job, she was also a hard work person and it made people around her proud.

Second was Thamrin and Wargika (2013) The Character Analysis of Glen Hansard in Once Film. This study applied descriptive qualitative research by Rahardjo, Robert, and Card. The study reveal that the main character had a struggle, visionary, ambitious, introvert, sensitive, straightforward and curious characters.

Third was Pangestu and Sunardi (2016) An incomplete psychological novel: A psychoanalytical analysis of hazel lancaster in John The Fault in Our Stars. This paper employs psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud, used descriptive qualitative method. The finding of this research is that the main character contains self-defense mechanism and core issues evidence. Beside of that, the novel did not provide evidence the main character development so this paper concluded the novel was not a complete psychological novel.

Fourth was Bowta and Puluhulawa (2018) Deconstructive Analysis of Main Character in Frankenstein Novel by Merry Shelley. The study applied deconstructive approach. The result portrayed the main character after deconstructive that the main character himself was the cause of all the chaos done by his creatures. The ambitious of the main character made him into a different person, from a good person to a very selfish and cruel person.

Fifth was Latifah et al (2019) Character Analysis of Jace Wayland in the Mortal Instrument: City of Bones Novel Through Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory of Abraham Maslow. This study used qualitative method with Abraham Maslow approach. The result of the analysis showed that main character had fulfilled four needs of human needs by Abraham, it was psychological need, safety need, love and belongingness need, and esteem need. Meanwhile the main character could not fulfill the needs of self-actualization need.

Puluhulawa (2018) The study applied deconstructive approach. On the other hand, Latifah et al (2019) using qualitative method with Abraham Maslow approach. Beside of the different approach, the objects are also different. In this research the writer analyzed the personality of Tifani Fanelli, the main character in the novel The Luckiest Girl Alive by Jessica Knoll, and also the factors that influence the personality development of Tifani FaNelli.

2.2. Research Theory

Psychology is the Science of Mental Life, it is description and explanation of state consciousness, the consciousness such as feelings, desires, cognitions, reasoning, decisions, and all its kinds (James, 1950:2). According to Wade, et al (2016:4) psychology is generally defined as a discipline that focuses on behavior and mental processes as well as on these behaviors and mental processes are influenced by the physical, mental, and external environment of the organism. The main goal of psychology is to understand human behavior, mental function, and emotional processes.

Individual Psychology tries to see individual lives as a whole, and regards that every reaction, the action and impulse is an expression of each individual towards life. Individual Psychology is not only predicted what will happen but such as prophet Jonah, it predicts what might happen to not happen (Brett, 1997:1-2). The leading idea of Individual Psychology of Adler is found in the recognition of the importance of human society. it is not only for the development of the character but also for the orientation each of the action, emotion in human being’s life (Adler, 1949:30). The main principle of Adlerian theory where the feeling of inferiority, fictional final goal, social interest, superiority, style of life, and creative power.

3. METHODS

The writer used descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. Qualitative was a research that tends to understand the phenomena of what the research subject experienced such as perception, motivation, behavior, by describing it by words or sentences. According to McLeod (2019, p. 1) qualitative research is the process of collecting, analyzing, and interpreting non-numerical data, such as text, video, images or audio recordings. This type of data can be collected using diary accounts or in-depth interviews to direct observation, analysis of artifact, documents, and cultural records, to the use of visual material or personal experiences.

The primary source of the data in this research taken from the novel Luckiest Girl Alive by Jessica Knoll with a total pages 338 and 17 chapters. It was published by Simon & Schuster Paperbacks in 2015.

The data of the research were analyzed by using qualitative method. The data which have been collected were identified based on the related sentences. After that, the writer reducing the data and then the data classified according to the theories from Alfred Adler - Individual Psychology (1923). Data analysis were presented in qualitative data.

4. RESULTS

The writer divided the data finding into two parts, there was data for the personality and the data for the factors of personality development.

4.1. TifAni FaNelli’s Personality in The Luckiest Girl Alive Novel by Jessica Knoll
The writer found that there were 42 data that represented the personality of TifAni FaNelli. Therefore, the data were divided into 14 personality.

4.1.1 Easily Influenced

Data 5 “but I noticed that most of the girls weren’t using, so I didn’t either.” The data showed that the reason TifAni FaNelli did not buy the snacks because most of the girls in her school did not take it, so she did not take it either. TifAni FaNelli of course wanted to be like her schoolmates, and because she was a freshman so she noticed what the students at the school did and did not do in order to be easily adapted and accepted by them.

4.1.2. A Liar

In data 3 presented TifAni FaNelli lies. Although lying was not a good thing, but TifAni FaNelli felt that lying to her new friend is not a problem. When TifAni first time in her class, they had to tell of their summer activities, TifAni glad to know it, “I felt confident Mr. Larson had designed this exercise for my benefit” the reason TifAni happy was because they will not know what activities that TifAni done on her summer time “But no one knew what new kid had been up to”. Because no one know about her activities so she lied to them “When it was my turn, I told everyone I’d gone to the Pearl Jam concert on August 23, which hadn’t happened” TifAni FaNelli lied for a first time to her friends in Bradley the day she enter the Bradley school “But there was an ocean between Leah and these new people, and I had some new friends to impress, so I lied and I’m glad I did.” TifAni FaNelli just wants to get the attention of her friends. Even if she needed to lie, for TifAni, her new school was on another level, it did not same with her old school, so the only way to impress her new friends is by lying.

4.1.3. Patient

Data 9 illustrated TifAni FaNelli’s patient personality. TifAni FaNelli had to be patient and control her behavior to be recognized as one of the friends of that famous group student “Even though Hilary and Olivia were warming to me, they were still cautious. So I kept my head down and spoke only when spoken to, usually in passing in the hallways or on the way out of the classroom.” TifAni was tried to make Olivia and Hilary accept her slowly because TifAni knows that they still cautious on her, and for TifAni being invited by them as still far away so she will not push them “I was a while off from being invited to eat lunch with them, further still from being invited to one of their houses on the weekend, and I didn’t push my luck.” TifAni FaNelli presented the patient of her from the action that she did “I understand this was the assessment period. I could be patient.” For TifAni all of the rejected that she got from Olivia and Hilary were an assessment for her. TifAni must be nice in front of them and she must make them recognized and feel comfortable with her, and for that she will patient to get it.

4.1.4. Innocent

As a teenager just getting to know the outside world, TifAni FaNelli includes teenager who are still very innocent. In data 16 when she was harassed by her friends, she even apologized to one of them “I don’t really know how I ended up in Dean’s room and I feel like I should say I’m sorry or something because I didn’t want to hook up with----” …. “come on. You know I don’t care you hooked up with Dean too.” TifAni loved Liam which end her to apologize to him after the night where she was assaulted, but in the ended Liam do not care about who TifAni sleep with or be with, and it make TifAni so sad after heard it. “…the tears I forced back finding another channel in my throat, dissolving into a thin salty drip that left me feeling raw and burned in the torturous days that followed.”
4.1.5. Obsession

TifAni FaNelli who wanted to be a part of the famous student at the Bradley school and also wanted to be recognized by her crush, Liam. The data 13 it described TifAni obsession towards Liam where she was willing not to wear shoes to stay beside Liam even though she knows the deck was damp and slimy “… the deck was damp and slimy beneath my naked feet, but I didn’t want to go back in the house and find a pair of shoes, risk Liam asking someone else to be his partner in my momentary absence.” The desperation that TifAni FaNelli had over Liam made her barefoot despite the cold for fear that Liam would find someone else to accompany her in her absence.

4.1.6. A Dreamer

In data 40 TifAni also mention back how she had promised herself to worked hard in Liam’s funeral “I worked hard like I promised myself I would at Liam’s memorial service…” at the same time when she had school trip to New York, she was bumped into a woman. The time TifAni saw that woman she was amazed of how amazing that woman was, with expensive things that she had. TifAni FaNelli dreams to be success like her one day because TifAni think there was no one going to hurt a successful woman “There is no way that woman can ever get hurt….” For TifAni, she would be protected if she was success, at the time of her success there would no time to think about other people, and also people going to step away from her way. “…. there it started, my concrete and skyscraper wanderlust. I saw how there was a protection in success, …. people stepping out of your way simply because you looked like you had more important places to be than they did…. I just had to get to that, I decided, and no one could hurt me again.” TifAni FaNelli decided to achieve that dream so that there was no one going to hurt her again, the way to succeed was not easy, she needed to hold on her dream, never stop and not give up. TifAni tried to brought herself from her past to a better and happier future.

4.1.7. Forgiveing

Forgiving someone who has hurt and assault us was not an easy thing to do. Yet unlike TifAni FaNelli, one of her praiseworthy personality was easy to forgive. She may be hurt but she tried to forgave her friend. The data 25 portrayed TifAni FaNelli forgiving personality where Dean seek for TifAni forgiveness “I’m really sorry, Finny.” Dean’s voice caught in his squat throat. “I feel sick that I did that. Can you ever forgive me? I won’t be able to live with myself if you don’t forgive me.” After heard the desperation in Dean’s voice and saw that Dean was truly sorry for hurting her, TifAni decided to forgive him. For TifAni, to assume it never happened only she can do it by forgave Dean for what he had done it would be so much easier if this never happened, and only we have the power to make it so. I swallowed. “Okay.”

4.1.8. Lack of confidence

Data 14 described TifAni FaNelli also had a lack of self-confidence, as seen below where she felt just by being a part of Luke, her fiancé, she then could get the confidents on her “… I haven’t really “made it,” until I have a ring on my finger.” TifAni FaNelli was a woman who lack of confident. She said that she was not a ‘someone’ which means that she was not become a someone until she had a ring on her finger, the ring was a wedding ring, TifAni and Luke would have their wedding soon. “…. I’m supposed to be better than this, a more confident, independent woman than this. But I’m not. Okay? I’m just not.” She also said that she was not a confident and independent woman. By that dialog, can be conclude that TifAni felt only become Luke wife people can believe on her, because Luke is a nobleman.
4.1.9. Loyal

Loyalty was a hard thing to find in a person. Loyalty was not only related to relationships but can also be done with family, friends, and even work. Here, TifAni FaNelli shows her loyalty to her job in the data 29, based on the sentence “…. I was in no rush to respond because I was not interested in the least.” TifAni also said that she was not interested to the company no matter how much they offered her “…. No matter how much they offered me, it would never be enough to a move to…. The data presented TifAni loyalty personality toward her jobs.

4.1.10. Jealousy

In data 12 TifAni FaNelli explained her jealousy personality from the quotes “The door swung open to reveal three rows of Hairy Legs, Dean and Peyton included, Olivia perched gleefully on Liam’s lap. Jealousy corkscrewed in my chest. It’s just because it’s a full car.” The jealousy of TifAni were appeared when saw Olivia sit on Liam’s lap. The jealousy of TifAni over Olivia because of fear Olivia might take Liam from her. Even though Liam did not like TifAni as TifAni likes him but seeing Olivia closed to him make her felt insecurity in winning Liam’s heart.

4.1.11. Generous

Beside of loyal, in data 1 TifAni FaNelli was also described as generous to her co-worker, it can be seen how she greets her co-worker in the morning “Good morning, Loretta!” The most sincere I ever am is when I’m speaking to the cashier at the newsstand…. Based on the data TifAni was presented her friendly attitudes towards Loretta which was a woman who severe burns all over her body. Even though Loretta had a severe burn over her body where made other co-workers were complained about it but TifAni FaNelli did not care and always treat her friendly and also considers her as a friend.

4.1.12. Trendy

As women in modern times, appearance was the main thing in public because the first thing that others noticed when looking at people was their appearance. TifAni FaNelli had the sense of trendy personality when she was young. Back when TifAni FaNelli was 14 years-old, she was care about her appearance in front of crowd. In data 22, the sentence that represented TifAni trendy personality when she went to toilet to make herself up “what I was about to do more shameful than clogging the toilet; make myself up.” In that time TifAni felt that it was a shameful but to get a prettier look, she did not care about it anymore. TifAni FaNelli makeup herself to look beautiful in front of her friends and especially in front of Liam “…. I splashed water on my face, trying to drawe….”

4.1.13. Emotional

TifAni FaNelli was emotional, data 21 presented that she was afraid of being a burden to others, afraid of bothering others. Beside of that, she wants to put the blame on Liam for what happened to her, yet she afraid that it was just an excuse that she made “All my life, I’ve found it difficult to advocate for myself, to ask for what I want. I fear burdening people so much. I’d like to blame it on what happened that night, on what happened in the ensuing weeks, but I think it’s just part of my blueprint.” TifAni FaNelli appear as a sensitive girl since the incident of harassment she experienced. Although Liam and others are deceiving her but she was afraid to blame them.

4.1.14. Brave
The action of TifAni FaNelli that the writer considers as a bravery was when she stabs her own friend to protect herself and also one of her friends who was a hostage in data 31 “I slammed the knife into the side of his neck…. heard the crunch as I submerged the blade in his chest, and this time I wasn’t able to pull it back out.” Even though Arthur was TifAni FaNelli’s first friend at Bradley school, and was a friend who was always there when she was in trouble, but TifAni was able to stab him at that time. Of course, it takes courage to stab your own friend. TifAni FaNelli was a brave girl because she was able to survive from all the problems she faced when she was 14 years-old.

4.2. Factors that influence TifAni FaNelli’s personality development in the Luckiest Girl Alive novel by Jessica Knoll

Below were the data that showed the factors that influence TifAni FaNelli’s personality development.

In data 3 showed social interest where TifAni FaNelli wanted to be friends with her new classmate so she intended to make them impressed by lied to them that she was gone to Pearl Jam concert on her summer time which actually had not true, can be seen in sentence “I had some new friends to impress”. TifAni lied here, where it was a new thing that she learnt. In addition, there was a feeling of inferiority where TifAni does not dare to be herself because she felt that her new friends and the old friends had such a big difference. TifAni also presented her fictional goal in here, where she hoped can get their attention by lied to them.

The next data was data 4, presented how TifAni FaNelli lied to Arthur about where she had lived before. TifAni FaNelli had a low self-esteem towards her family background where she cannot accept her own situation if she was come from an ordinary family “I live in Chester Springs, which is even farther out, crawling with commoners” this statement refers to the feeling of inferiority where it led TifAni FaNelli to told another lie to her friend that it only took half an hour to her place but actually it took 45 minutes. The lied was life style that TifAni always develop.

In data 6 described the inferiority that TifAni had when Olivia gave compliment on her pants. The situation portrayed how TifAni felt degraded, in sentence “which I already couldn’t wait to never wear again” showed that TifAni decided to not used her pants anymore, the compliment that she receive made her felt less confident on her appearances because the girl who gave the compliment was seem as a dominant girl in Bradley school.

Data 7 represented how TifAni FaNelli also tried to found friend that she liked which she tried to approached the girl named Hilary by helped her hold on to the foods and paid for it. Quote “I grabbed the sack of candy before she did, paying for it the actions showed the social interest” that TifAni FaNelli had, and she develop it by treat Hilary.

In data 8 TifAni explained that she always followed what Nell did back then. “I ate the way she ate” the actions were because TifAni felt that she cannot made people liked her without being like Nell, the disbelief that TifAni showed over herself portrayed her inferiority. Beside of that, copied others person was presented TifAni life style which were created by her creative power.

The next one was when TifAni FaNelli went to New York City for school trip, where she found another goal to achieve, which going to help her become a better person in data 40. TifAni FaNelli got another fictional goal when she bumped into a woman, she saw the woman as an amazing woman with an expensive thing around her body. As she saw the woman superiority aura, TifAni think that there was no one can ever hurt her There is no way that woman can ever get hurt. TifAni FaNelli wanted to be like her, where TifAni felt that there was protection in success I just had to get to that, I decided the woman and her
success was TifAni fictional goal. TifAni also said that she would do anything to get to the goal that she made so that no one could hurt her again.

5. DISCUSSION

There were two data that the writer found in this study. The first data is the personality and the second data about the factors that influence the personality of TifAni FaNelli in Jessica Knoll’s novel Luckiest Girl Alive. In this study, the writer applied Alfred Adler Individual Psychology in analysing the data.

The result of the data analysis showed that novel Luckiest Girl Alive contained 14 personalities. There were easily influenced, a liar, patient, innocent, obsession, a dreamer, forgiving, lack of confidence, loyal, jealous, generous, trendy, emotional, and brave.

In this study TifAni FaNelli considered as easily influenced girl because of the actions and response that showed where she in pursuit her goal to become the famous student friend, she tried to appear as what her friends look alike and do what they do such as skip the class, smoke, get drunk, and tried to wear make-up like her friends. Because TifAni FaNelli came from ordinary family she always covers up about her home town by lie to others. The actions where do by TifAni because most of the students in Bradley school came from a wealthy family.

TifAni FaNelli also showed another personality on achieve her goal which was patient, she tried to be patient to be get accepted by the famous students. TifAni also represented her innocent personality where she apologize to her rapist. In order to get into her goal TifAni presented the obsession that she had where she did not wear shoes when it’s cold because scare her crush find another partner, smokes to impressed her crush, skip class to join the famous students to hangout, and drinks alcohol. TifAni also showed jealousy personality where she got jealous saw Olivia on her crush lap.

TifAni FaNelli on her crush funeral set a goal to not let people hurt her anymore and would work hard to made it happen. The ambitious that she had made her as a dreamer girl. Even though it still far away to achieve but the dream of TifAni become the aim of her. TifAni describe herself as a forgiving girl where she forgave all the people who do her wrong. Because of her dark past TifAni did not have the confidence to speak out about the experience that she had. She thought that she cannot do it and believe that people would not believe on her, because of that she decided to married her fiancé before telling the truth of her past. TifAni also consider as a loyal person, she was loyal to her work where it showed when another company tried to hire her but she refuses it and would not accept it no matter how much the company would pay her.

TifAni FaNelli as generous girl showed when she wanted to help her friend to hold and paid for her food, even when the adult times she did the same thing. As a successful woman, TifAni love expensive things, she was a trendy and up to date woman, but the memories of her past always haunted her which made her become an emotional woman. Because TifAni FaNelli can survive from all the obstacle that she experienced, she was consider as a brave woman.

The writer also found the factor that influence the personality development. It was inferiority, social interest, and fictional final goal. The leading idea of Individual Psychology of Adler is found in the recognition of the importance of human society. it was not only for the development of the character but also for the orientation each of the action, emotion in human being’s life (Adler, 1949:30).

According to Adler books which were edited by Brett (1997:31) inferiority is the feeling of incapable that each person had the only way to treated it by make people understand that they capable of facing difficulties and solving the problems life.
The main factor that influenced TifAni FaNelli personality can be seen in data 4, 6 and 8. TifAni presented a different personality which she developed, it was a liar, easily influenced and jealous girl. TifAni become a liar girl because of she come from ordinary family, she tried to become the famous student friend, and she also jealous of the girl who closet to her crush.

Social interest is a feeling of belonging to the society. What we call justice and truth, and are considered the most precious in human character, are essentially nothing more than the fulfillment of conditions which arise in the social needs of mankind (Adler, 1949:30).

The result of the study described how the social interest influenced TifAni FaNelli personality. Based on the data 3 and 7 TifAni represented a different personality which she developed after moving to the Bradley school which were become a liar, generous and easily influenced. The personality appeared because of TifAni interest to become friends of the famous student at her new school.

According to Adler another book which edited by Ansbasher and Ansbasher (1956:93-94) state that the fictional goal is blurred and pliable, which is it cannot be measured. Fictional goal has no real existence so it cannot be completely comprehended causally. But it can be understood as a teleological tool of the soul that seeks direction. The fictional, is the starting point of the formation and differentiation of psychological resources to be given for preparation for attitudes, readiness, and character traits.

Another factor that influenced the personality development of TifAni was fictional final goal. According to the data 40 the personality showed that the strong desire over her goal made TifAni became an obsession, trendy, and a dreamer girl.

6. CONCLUSION

The writer concluded that TifAni FaNelli as a main character in Luckiest Girl Alive had dominant personalities which easily influenced personality as she always imitated people around her and followed them to made them as her friends. She also did not know whether what she did was wrong or not which made her become a liar too. A girl who obsessed with her goal represented in her ways too hard to achieved her goals which being noticed by the most popular students at her school and to get Liam’s attention. Beside of that, TifAni FaNelli was an emotional woman as she easily cried and at the same time braved to face all her problems. She also forgave people who do her wrong because wanted to become their friends. Furthermore, she was also had the personality of a generous girl, patient, innocent, jealous, lack of confidence, trendy, loyal, a dreamer, forgiving, as she was lived as success woman and had lots of expensive things. All the personality trait was based on the data that got from TifAni FaNelli’s teenager and adult life.

Meanwhile the factor that influence TifAni FaNelli’ personality development were social interest, inferiority and fictional final goal. The striving to the superiority was the process in achieve the fictional final goal. Meanwhile, the life style was respond that TifAni FaNelli gave as a result of interaction toward her society where shaped by her creative power.

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