A FREUDIAN PSYCHOANalytic CRITICISM:
BRIONY TALLIS’ PROCESS OF SUBLIMATION IN
ATONEMENT BY IAN MCEWAN

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BIBLIOGRAPHY
Atonement tells about a story of thirteen year old girl named Briony Tallis. She is the third child in the Tallis family. Briony loves to write and she has good imagination. To welcome her brother, Leon Tallis, she makes a play The Trials of Arabella. Later on, she makes a very crucial decision. She puts herself as a witness and claims that she really sees a man who raped Lola. She doesn’t even see who did that to Lola. She just takes conclusion about what she sees previously. In fact she misinterprets all the previous events she sees between Robbie and Cecilia. Her accusation changes everybody’s life, including her own life. The writer chooses this novel because it has unusual story with a unique character. The novel also combines love story, regret, dedication and war.

This research aim is to find out the motivation behind Briony’s false accusation. Two methods will be used to analyze Briony Tallis character. First, the writer will use Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalytic approach about three elements of personality, id, ego and superego to analyze the motivation behind Briony’s action. Furthermore, the theory of sublimation will also be used to analyze the psychic development of Briony Tallis. By Freudian psychoanalysis theory, it’s clear that Briony has experienced the process of sublimation: a process of turning one’s repressed feelings into a nobler thing or into a work of art. The sublimation first happens when Briony gives up her chance to continue her study to college. She chooses to be a war time nurse. The second sublimation happens when Briony writes a novel about her experience.

Keywords: atonement, ego, id, psychoanalysis, superego, sublimation
ABSTRAK


Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui motivasi apa dibalik tuduhan yang dilakukan Briony. Dua metode akan digunakan untuk menganalisa tokoh Briony Tallis.

Pertama-tama, penulis akan menggunakan teori dari Sigmund Freud tentang teori psikoanalisis yang berisi tentang tiga elemen dasar dari kepribadian, id, ego dan superego yang akan membantu penulis dalam menentukan motivasi dibalik tindakan Briony.

Selanjutnya, teori tentang sublimasi juga akan digunakan untuk menganalisis perkembangan psikis dari Briony Tallis. Dengan menggunakan teori psikoanalisis oleh Sigmund Freud, terlihat jelas bahwa Briony Tallis mengalami proses sublimasi dalam hidupnya, yaitu proses untuk membalikkan perasaan tertekan seseorang menjadi sesuatu yang lebih mulia atau menjadi sebuah karya seni. Proses sublimasi pertama terjadi ketika Briony tidak menggunakan kesempatannya untuk melanjutkan kuliah. Dia memilih untuk menjadi suster di masa perang. Proses sublimasi kedua terjadi ketika Briony menulis novel tentang apa yang pernah dialaminya.

Kata kunci: pengampunan, ego, id, psikoanalisis, superego, sublimasi.