

Winnie's personality in Natalie Babbit's tuck everlasting a scientific publication

Aulia Rizkhan^{a,1,*}

^aMagazine Of Communication Universitas Ahmad Dahlan

¹Aulia@comm.uad.ac.id*;

* corresponding author

ABSTRACT

This research is entitled "Winnie's Personality In Natalie Babbit's Tuck Everlasting." The object of this study is to see the personalities of the character in the novel. This research is based on the awareness psychological approach to the type study and laws of psychology are applied to literary works. In this research, the researcher applied psychological approach and Individual psychological theory. Through the objective approach the researcher see the personalities of the character in the novel. The method of the research is descriptive qualitative method. The main data are taken from words, phrases, and sentences of the novel. The supporting data are taken from some books, articles, and internet. The results of this study are clearly explained as follows. The researcher found six personalities in the novel: fictional finalism, social interest, inferiority feeling, striving superiority, style of life, and creative power. From the six analysis of Adler's individual psychological is connected to each other and builds a unity from the main character's personality.

This is an open access article under the [CC-BY-SA](#) license.



Article history

Received 01-09-2020

Revised 22-10-2020

Accepted 24-10-2020

Keywords

Type study of the literary work

Psychological Approach

Personality

Individual Psychology

1. Introduction

In the literary world, there are many kinds of artworks produced by people who are interested in literature. Klarer (Klarer, 2013) He stated that literature is referred to as the whole of written expression, with the limitation that not every written document can be classified as literature in the more accurate sense of the word. Literature is related to somebody feelings. Literature is divided into three there are prose, poetry, and drama. Prose and drama is a literary work that is not bound, while the poem is a literary work that is bound by certain rules and regulations. Based on the development of literary, many kinds of activity are used to find the meaning and the value within the literary works, such as doing analysis by using the theory from the expert in literary works.

According to Adler individual of various kinds There are six concepts of Adler's theory, there are Striving for Superiority, the people's subjective perceptions shape their behavior and personality, unity and self-consistency of personality suggests that each persona is unique and indivisible and that the notion of inconsistent behavior does not exist, social interest and that the value of all human activity must be seen from the viewpoint of social interest, a self-consistent personality structure develops into a person's style of life, style of life is molded by people's creative power (Sindelar & Milkowski, 2012).

Tuck Everlasting is one of the popular novels written by Natalie Babbit. In this novel, the writer tells about Winnie foster who had a problem on her own after she knows the water that makes her live forever. After reading the novel and the plot and summary of the novel, In this case of study,

there is some reason why the researcher wants to study the work. The first, it is the very popular book it has sold over 5 million copies and has been called a classic of modern children's literature.

To get a better understanding of the novel, in the literary field as references to other researchers in analyzing the novel especially based on Adler's theory individual psychological approach. finally, the last reason is the research is to supply theoretical framework in the research of literature in the English Literature in order to gain experience, understand, and apply the theory of an Individual Psychological Approach to Analysis about the personality of the main character. By writing it in this undergraduate thesis, the researcher really hope this undergraduate thesis can also be useful for the readers.

2. Theoretical Framework

2.1. Teori Uses and Gratification

The researcher uses individual psychology by Adler. Individual psychology is a term used specifically to refer to in its approach to psychological method or science (Ulfah & Barry, 2019). The English edition of Adler's academic work Adler (2013) is a compilation of papers and lectures given mainly in 1912-1914, covering the entire spectrum of human psychology in a single survey to represent the indivisible unity of personality. In the process where Adler leaves Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic school, the "individual psychology" was formulated (Jandevi, 2019).

3. Method

This research uses qualitative method. Qualitative research is research on descriptive research and tends to use analysis. Process and meaning (subject perspective) are more highlighted in qualitative research. The theoretical foundation is used as a guide so that the focus of research is in accordance with the facts in the object being analyzed (Rijali, 2019).

4. Results and Discussion

A. Individual Psychological Analysis

The individual psychological analysis of Natalie Babbit's *Tuck Everlasting* Focuses on Winnie Foster as the main Character. It provides an overview about Winnie's Personality under six basic of individual psychological analysis, which will give an answer to the problem statement about how Winnie copes with her problem.

1. *The general type of Individual Psychological Perspective*

a. *Inferiority Feeling and Compensation*

In real life, inferiority is expressed in different ways, Adler suggested that the main expression should be to seek superiority to compensate for feelings or evidence? of inferiority. Therefore, striving to be at the top rather than at the bottom of life, striving to be first rather than last, plus rather than the minus (Adler, 2013).

In the first, Winnie Foster shows the inferiority feeling that she compares her position in life to that of the toad's and she wants to make her mark somehow. She needs to break out of her world, which just feels really limited.

"Look here, toad," she said", thrusting her arms through the bars of the fence and plucking at the weeds on the other side. "I don't think i can stand it much longer."

At this moment a window at the front of the cottage was flung open and a thin voice—her grandmother's—piped, "Winfred! Don't sit on that dirty grass. You'll stain your boots and stockings."

And another, firmer voice—her mother's added,come stroke out there on a day like this. And your lunch is ready." (Babbit & Roemer, 1997)

Second inferiority of Winnie is when The different status with Jesse is inferiority feeling of Winnie foster. It makes Winnie think the she cannot always together with Jesse. Jesse is Immortal but she is human being, so they are from different world living.

“Pa thinks it’s something left over him from-well, from some other plan for the way the world should be,” said jesse. “some plan did’nt work out too good. And so everything was changed. Except that the spring was passed over, somehow or other. Maybe he’s right. I don’t know. But you see, Winnie Foster, When I told you before I’m a hundred and four years old. I was telling the truth. But I’m really only seventeen. And, so far as I know, I’ll stay seventeen till the end of the world.”(Lachney et al., 2016).

b. Fictional Finalist

According to Adler as quoted by Hjelle and Zeiegler goal (1992:154) The quest for superiority of each person is guided by the fictional that they have adopted. He also believes the fictional goal of superiority of the person is self-determined. It is formed by the creative power of the individual, making it unique individually.

The first Fictional Finalist of this story is Winnie tries to help the toad. Winnie sees her toad. He's just outside the fence. A big dog appears and becomes really interested in the toad. It's not clear whether he wants to play with the toad or eat it, but either way, the toad's in danger. She races to get the water bottle full o' immortality. She brings it out and drops the water onto the toad.

"The toad appeared out of the weeds, on her side of the road this time. It bounced out of a cover of old dandelion leaves and landed—plop!—just beyond the fence. If she had reached her hand through the bars, she could have touched it. And next, a large brown dog, with an easy gait and dangling tongue, came loping down the road toward them. He stopped opposite the fence and looked at Winnie with a friendly swish of his tail, and then he saw the toad. At once he began to bark, his eyes bright. He pranced up, his hindquarters leaping independently from side to side, nose close to the toad, his voice shrill with enthusiasm (Lachney et al., 2016).

“Don’t!” cried Winnie, leaping to her feet and flapping her arms. “Go away, dog! Stop that! Go away---shoo!”

The dog paused. He looked up at Winnie’s frantic dancing and then he looked at the toad, who had pressed down close to the dirt, eyes tight shut. It was too much for him. He began to bark again and reached out a long paw.

Winnie stood up and looked at the dog. He was waiting outside the fence, his head on one side, waiting outside the fence, his head on one side, peering at her longingly. "it's my toad," Winnie told him. "So you'd better leave it alone." And then, on an impulse, she turned and ran into the cottage, up to her room, to the bureau drawer where she had hidden Jesse's bottle ---the bottle of water from the spring. In a moment she was back again. The toad still squatted where she had dropped it, the dog still waited at the fence. Winnie pulled out the cork from the mouth of the fence. Winnie pulled out the cork from the mouth of the bottle, and kneeling, she poured the precious water, very slowly and carefully, over the toad (Lachney et al., 2016)

From the theory above the fictional finalism is a subjective experience rather than an objective reality. It gives direction to the individual's striving. Since an individual's fundamental motivation is to move toward this fictional finalism, a person cannot be understood without knowing the unique goal. From the beginning, actually Winnie want to drink the water but she decide to save toad’s life first , She will think about whether she wants to drink from the spring, and if she decides to, she can always go back and get more water. And in the meantime, she's saved the toad's life.

c. Striving for Superiority

Adler states in Phrases Adler (2013) That the striving for superiority is an inmate drive that propels us to perfection grows out of our need to compensate for our feeling of inferiority and represents an attempt to achieve power or strength in order to better control the environment. Recognizes that the striving for superiority can manifest itself in thousands of different ways and that each person has his or her own concrete to achieve or strive for perfection. The superior of Winnie Foster in Tuck Everlasting be seen below:

Striving superiority from Winnie Foster is when Winnie receive water that could make her live forever so she can be together with her boyfriend Jesse.

“We have been down to see her. She's all right. But even if she can climb through the window, he'll come after her soon's he sees she's gone. Seems to me he'll come after her soon's he sees she's gone. Seems to me he'll notice right off. That don't give us much time to get away. But we go to try it. There ain't no other way. Anyhow, I come to say goodbye. We won't be able to come back here for a long, long time, Winnie, if we get away. I mean, they'll be looking for Ma. Winnie, listen---I won't see you again, not for ages. Look now--- here's a bottle of water from the spring. You keep it. And then, no matter where you are, when you're seventeen, Winnie, you can drink it, and then come find us. We'll leave directions somehow. Winnie ,Please say you will!” He pressed the bottle into her hands and Winnie took it, closing her fingers over it.

The little bottle was empty now. It lay on the grass at Winnie's feet. But if all of it was true, there was more water in the wood. There was plenty more. Just in case. When she was seventeen. If she should decide, there was more water in the wood. There was more water in the wood. Winnie smiled. Then she stooped and put her hand through the fence and set the toad free. “There!” she said. “You're safe. Forever.” (Lachney et al., 2016)

d. Social Interest

According to Adler as quoted by Feist (Feist, 2006) Social interest can be represented as an attitude of connection with humanity in general, as well as fun empathy in every member of the human race. It goes hand in hand with others for social advancement rather than personal gain.

First, she gets her first crush. she is a human being she loves Jesse. She adapts with her surrounding, society, and Jesse's family. First, she meets Jesse, their relationship is not good, she does not like Jesse.

" There was a clearing directly in front of her, at the center of which an enormous tree thrust up. Its thick roots rumpling the ground ten feet around in every direction, sitting relaxed with his back against the trunk was a boy almost a man. And he seemed so glorious to Winnie that she lost her heart at once.

He was a thin and sunburned, this wonderful boy, with a thick mop of curly brown hair, and he wore his battered trousers and loose, grubby shirt with as much self-assurance as if they were silk and satin. A pair of green suspenders, more decorative than useful,gave the finishing touch, from he was shoeless and there was a twig tucked between the toes of one foot. {...}" (Lachney et al., 2016)

We can see another social interest of Winnie Foster when so she decides she's going to half-heartedly run away. She'll go for an adventure in the woods, and hey, maybe it'll lead to running away.

“Winnie woke early next morning. The sun was only just opening its own eye on the eastern horizon and the cottage was full of silence. But she realized that sometime during the night she had made up her mind: she would not run away today. "where should I go, anyway?" she asked herself. "there's nowhere else I really want to be. "But in another part of her head, the dark part where her oldest fears were housed, she knew there was afraid to go away alone. It was one thing to talk about being yourself, doing important things, but quite another when the opportunity arose. (Babbit & Roemer, 1997).

Well, anyway, she could at least slip out, right now, she decided, and go into the wood. To see if she could discover what did really made the music the night before. That would be something, anyway. She did not allow herself to consider the idea that making a difference in the world might require a bolder venture. She merely told herself consolingly, "of course, while I'm in the wood, if I decide never to come back, well then, that will be that." She was able to believe in this because she needed to; and, believing, was her own true, promising friend once more (Lachney et al., 2016).

e. Style of life

According to Adler, there are four primary types of style of life: the ruling type, getting type: avoiding type, and socially useful type. First, the ruling type is people of the attitude have a little social interest, but a high degree of activity (Adler, 2013).

In Tuck Everlasting, the researcher choose Third types of style of life , avoiding type, avoiding types is the people who try to escape from life problems and take part in not much socially constructive activity.

“Tuck's heart quickened. He had noticed the cemetery on the way in. Mae had seen it, too. They had not spoken about it. But both we knew it might hold other answers. Tuck straightened his old jacket. He passed through away an archway wrought-iron curlicues, and paused, squinting at the weedy row of gravestones. And then, far over to the right, he saw a tall monument, once no doubt imposing but now tipped slightly sidewise.

On it was carved one name: Foster. Slowly, tuck turned his footsteps toward the monument. And saw, as he approached, that there were other, Sammler markers all around it. A family plot. And then his throat closed. For it was there. He had wanted it to be there, but now that he saw it, he was overcome with sadness. He knelt and read the inscription: In Loving Memory Winifred, Foster Jackson Dear Wife, Dear Mother 1970-1948" (Lachney et al., 2016).

"So," Said Tuck to Himself. " Two years. She's been gone two years." He stood up and looked around, embarrassed, trying to clear the lump from his throat. But there was no one to see him. The cemetery was very quiet. In the branches of a willow behind him, was very quiet .in the branches of a wilow behind him, a red-winged blackbird chirped. Tuck wiped his eyes hastily. Then he straightened his jacket again and drew up his hand in a brief salute. "Good girl," he said aloud. And then he turned and left the cemetery, walking quickly (Lachney et al., 2016).

On the epilogue above it can be concluded that she learns that immortality might not be all it's cracked up to be and remember when Tuck stares enviously at the dying Yellow Suit Guy Winnie definitely notices that. And she knows what it means—Tuck wishes that he, too, had the chance to die. Living forever has gotten kind of old. On the other hand, if she becomes immortal, she has the opportunity to be with Jesse forever. Forever. Not bad for a first crush. But In the end, she decides not to drink the water that could make her live forever.

f. Creative self

Creative power simplifies freedom, free to be what we will, we may choose to experience pain, joy or anxiety, or to do defend ourselves against these experiences by creating various safeguarding tendencies. Creative power is a dynamic concept. It implies movement and this movement is the most salient characteristic of life. All physic life involves free movement toward a goal, movement with a direction (Feist, 2006).

The first Creative power of Winnie Fosters is when Winnie tries to shoo the dog away, and she grabs the toad and brings it into her yard.

“Winnie stood up and looked at the dog. He was waiting outside the fence, his head on one side, waiting outside the fence, his head on one side, peering at her longingly. “it’s my toad,” Winnie told him. “So you’d better leave it alone.” And then, on an impulse, she truned and ran into the cottage, up to her room, to the bureau drawer where she had hidden jesse’s bottle—the bottle of water from the spring (Babbit & Roemer, 1997).

The Second Creative power of Winnie Fosters races to get the water bottle full o' immortality. She brings it out and drops the water onto the toad.

“The toad still squatted where she had dropped it, the dog still waited at the fence. Winnie pulled out the cork from the mouth of the bottle, and kneeling, she poured the precious water, very slowly and carefully, over the toad" (Babbit & Roemer, 1997).

The dog watched this operation, and then,yawning,he was suddenly bored. He truned and loped away,back down the road to the village. Winnie picked up the toad and held it for a long time, without the least disgust, in the palm of her hand. It sat calmy, blinking, and the water glistened on it's back (Babbit & Roemer, 1997).

From the quotation above, Winnie finally give the water that she get from jesse, and give it to the tod to save the toad’s life and make the toad became immortal so the dog can not disturb the toad anymore and save the toad from the dog forever.

5. Conclusion

This chapter contains the conclusion of this research. From the analysis of this research, having analyzed Natalie Babbit's *Tuck Everlasting* the researcher comes into the last chapter which deal with the conclusion, based on the Individual Psychology analysis and analyzing all the facts about dealing with Winnie's personality. In this conclusions, the researcher just takes the summary of the discussion of the research. In this novel, Natalie Babbit Describe Winnie as a person who always fulfill her wish by resilience. In *Tuck Everlasting*, Through the Tucks, Winnie learns that immortality might not be all it's cracked up to be. when Tuck stares enviously at the dying Yellow Suit Guy Winnie definitely notices that. And she knows what it means Tuck wishes that he, too, had the chance to die. Living forever has gotten kind of old. On the other hand, if she becomes immortal, she has the opportunity to be with Jesse forever. It's not bad at all. At the end, she realizes that she doesn't have to decide right away.

In this conclusion, the researcher just takes the summary of the disccusion of the research. The researcher will draw the individual psychological approach proposed by Alfred Adler. An individual psychological approach has six part such as; fictional finalism, social interest, inferiority feeling, striving superiority, style of life, and creative power. Fictional finalism of Winnie Foster is when Winnie tries to help toad and try to protect the toad. Furthermore, he has to drink the water but she give it the toad first and She wants the toad to stay alive. She will think about whether she wants to drink from the spring, and if she decides to, she can always go back and get more water. And then creative power is when Winnie finally give the water that she get from Jesse, and give it to the toad to save the toad's life and make the toad become immortal so the dog can not disturb the toad anymore and save the toad from the dog forever.

Social Interest of Winnie Foster First, she gets her first crush. she is a human being she loves Jesse. She adapts with her surrounding, society, and Jesse's family. For the first time, she meets Jesse, their relationship is not good, she does not like Jesse. The different status with Jesse is inferiority feeling of Winnie foster. It makes Winnie think the she cannot always together with Jesse. Jesse is Immortal but she is human being, so they are from different world living. So Winnie must defeat it, Winnie must have a large struggle and to be superior. She is willing to drink the water that could make her live forever while she in the age teen.

And the last is Style of life in *Tuck Everlasting* writing by Natalie Babbit, it can be seen from Winnie Foster the changing of the Main's character's personality show her style of life to cope with the problem of her behavior toward others. It has made Winnie think wisely. she realizes that she does not have to decide right away. After all, she is still only ten. If Winnie does decide to drink from the spring, she can live her life first, and then pick her moment. In a way, she is got all the power in the world. But she chooses not to drink the water.

References

- Adler, A. (2013). *The Practice And Theory Of Individual Psychology*. In *The Practice And Theory Of Individual Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315010120>
- Babbit, S. E., & Roemer, M. (1997). *Telling Stories: Postmodernism and the Invalidation of Traditional Narrative*. *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*. <https://doi.org/10.2307/431809>
- Feist, G. J. (2006). *The psychology of science and the origins of the scientific mind*. In *The Psychology of Science and the Origins of the Scientific Mind*. <https://doi.org/10.5860/choice.44-0270>
- Jandevi, U. (2019). *Communication strategy to improve women's political participation in Indonesia*. *International Journal of Communication and Society*, 1(2), 68–81. <https://doi.org/10.31763/ijcs.v1i2.46>
- Klarer, M. (2013). *An introduction to literary studies*. In *An Introduction to Literary Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203068915>
- Lachney, M., Babbit, W., & Eglash, R. (2016). *Software Design in the " Construction Genre " of Learning Technology : Content Aware versus Content*. *Computational Culture*.

Rijali, A. (2019). ANALISIS DATA KUALITATIF. *Alhadharah: Jurnal Ilmu Dakwah*. <https://doi.org/10.18592/alhadharah.v17i33.2374>

Sindelar, J. J., & Milkowski, A. L. (2012). Human safety controversies surrounding nitrate and nitrite in the diet. *Nitric Oxide - Biology and Chemistry*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.niox.2012.03.011>

Ulfah, M., & Barry, A. (2019). Indonesia Leader Forum, post-truth and political interests in social media and television. *International Journal of Communication and Society*, 1(1), 17–25. <https://doi.org/10.31763/ijcs.v1i1.18>