

**THE NARRATOR'S DESIRE TO KILL IN "THE TELL-TALE HEART"**

**BY EDGAR ALAN POE: A PSYCHOANALYSIS STUDY**



A Research Paper (S-1)

Submitted in a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
an Undergraduate Degree (SS) in English Language and Literature

By

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**20.03.52.0024**

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**2024**

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I hereby declare that this thesis entitled **“The Narrator’s Desire to Kill in “The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe: A Psychoanalysis Study”** is my work and has never been submitted for any degree award elsewhere. Ideas, findings, and works of others cited here have been fully credited and acknowledged in compliance with the tradition of academic writing.

Semarang, July 22, 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and lines, representing the name Arbi Gilang Pamungkas.

Arbi Gilang Pamungkas

## **PAGE OF MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

“You got to let go of the stuff from the past because it just doesn’t matter! The only thing that matters is what you choose to be now!”

- Po Kung Fu Panda

Dedicated to:

My family, my Gym Bros and all  
my friends.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The author gives all praise and gratitude to Allah SWT. thanks for the blessings, grace, and guidance that are always given the author can complete the research entitled ‘The Peace in Christmas Reflected in Lewis Carroll’s Christmas Greeting from a Fairy to a Child’ on time. It cannot be denied that in preparing this final report there were many obstacles that the author faced, but in the end, the author was able to overcome them.

The Researcher would also like to thank the following people:

1. Dr. Agnes Widyaningrum, S.E., S.Pd., M.Pd. as the Dean of Faculty Law and Language, University of Stikubank (Unisbank) Semarang.
2. Yulistiyanti, S.S., M.Hum as the head of English Literature, University of Stikubank (Unisbank) Semarang.
3. Teguh Kasprabowo, S.Pd.,M.Pd. as the researcher’s supervisor, thank you for the guidance, time, and advice to researcher so that the researcher can complete this research.
4. All lecturers of Faculty Law and Language, University of Stikubank (Unisbank) Semarang.

5. The researcher's beloved parents Mr. Umar and Mrs. Siswati for always giving the support, encouragement, and confidence to finish this research.
6. Myself for successfully fighting laziness and struggling to get through all of this.  
Thank you for your cooperation.
7. The researcher's friends (Fery, Ravelino, Haidar, Feby, Priska, Anisa, Citra, Niken, Nabila, Putri, Rena, Salsa, Nuril, Galang, Ian, Rizqi, Galih, Krisna, Mas Amri) have become a place for my complaints and always listen to all his problems while completing this thesis.

Hopefully this research paper can be useful and helpful especially for students of English Literature Department and also the broader society. The researcher realizes that this research paper is far from being perfect so positive feedback will be needed



Semarang, July 22, 2024

Arbi Gilang Pamungkas



## ABSTRACT

P, Arbi Gilang. 2024 "*The Narrator's Desire to Kill in 'The Tell-Tale Heart' by Edgar Allan Poe: A Psychoanalysis Study*". A Research Paper, Faculty of Law and Language. University of Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Supervisor: Teguh Kasrabowo, S.Pd.,M.Pd.

This study aims to explore characters' motivation the main characters to do their actions. Also, it explores the reasons why he finally admitted his actions. The main data of this study is the Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe. As an object of research, this short story provides an opportunity to explore in depth the motivation and psychological condition of the narrator. This short story illustrates the internal conflict between the id, ego, and superego that influence human behavior. To analyze the data the researcher employed a literary analysis by using Sigmund Freud's theory in analyzing The Tell-Tale Heart Freud's theory of using a qualitative research approach. The short story clearly illustrates how unconscious urges (id) can conflict with moral norms (superego) and reality (ego), resulting in contradictory actions and decisions. The finding of this study showed that the desires of the main character to kill are due to The findings of this study show that the main character's desire to kill is caused by the trigger that makes the narrator kill the old man because the narrator is obsessed with the eye, the sound of the old man's heartbeat that was heard made the narrator's heartbeat increase when the narrator killed. The narrator finally admits his actions to the detective. The narrator's guilt emerged after he killed the old man, the psychological pressure faced by the narrator after killing. This study concluded that the internal conflict between the id, ego, and superego drove the narrator's actions. It showed how the narrator's inner conflict and obsession with the old man's eyes drove him to commit murder.

Keywords: Psychoanalysis, id ego and superego, Sigmund Freud.

## ABSTRAK

P. Arbi Gilang. 2024 *“The Narrator’s Desire to Kill in “The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe: A Psychoanalysis Study”*. Sebuah Makalah Penelitian, Fakultas Hukum dan Bahasa. Universitas Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Dosen Pembimbing: Teguh Kasprabowo, S.Pd.,M.Pd.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi motivasi karakter utama dalam melakukan tindakan mereka. Selain itu, mengeksplorasi alasan mengapa ia akhirnya mengakui tindakannya. Data utama penelitian ini adalah Tell-Tale Heart oleh Edgar Allan Poe. Sebagai objek penelitian, cerita pendek ini memberikan kesempatan untuk mengeksplorasi secara mendalam motivasi dan kondisi psikologis narator. Cerita pendek ini menggambarkan konflik internal antara id, ego, dan superego yang memengaruhi perilaku manusia. Untuk menganalisis data, peneliti menggunakan analisis sastra dengan menggunakan teori Sigmund Freud dalam menganalisis The Tell-Tale Heart teori Freud menggunakan pendekatan penelitian kualitatif. Cerita pendek tersebut dengan jelas menggambarkan bagaimana dorongan bawah sadar (id) dapat bertentangan dengan norma moral (superego) dan realitas (ego), yang mengakibatkan tindakan dan keputusan yang bertentangan. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa keinginan tokoh utama untuk membunuh disebabkan oleh Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa keinginan tokoh utama untuk membunuh disebabkan oleh pemicu yang membuat narator membunuh si orang tua Karena narator terobsesi dengan Mata, suara detak jantung si tua yang terdengar membuat detak jantung narator bertambah kencang saat narator membunuh. Narator akhirnya mengakui perbuatannya kepada detektif, rasa bersalah narator muncul setelah membunuh si tua tersebut. Tekanan psikologis yang dihadapi narator setelah membunuh. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa konflik internal antara id, ego, dan superego mendorong tindakan narator. Hal ini menunjukkan bagaimana konflik batin narator dan obsesi terhadap mata si tua mendorongnya untuk melakukan pembunuhan.

Kata kunci: psikoanalisis, Id ego dan superego, sigmund freud

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