

**THE EGO DEFENSE MECHANISM OF
THE MAIN CHARACTER CHARLIE IN *THE PERKS OF
BEING A WALLFLOWER* BY STEPHEN CHBOSKY**



**A Research Paper (S-1)
Submitted in a Partial Fulfillment of
the Requirements for an
Undergraduate Degree (SS) in
English Literature
By**

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DECLARATION

I, herewith, certify that this research paper entitled '**The Ego Defense Mechanism of the Main Character Charlie in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky**' is my original work and has never been submitted for any degree award elsewhere. Ideas, findings, and works of others cited herein have been fully credited and acknowledges in compliance with the tradition of academic writing.

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PAGE OF APPROVAL

A research paper entitled 'The Ego Defense Mechanism of the Main Character Charlie in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky' is written by Nurul Dina Wijayanti/19.03.52.0026 has been accepted for approval by the Board of Examiners, Faculty of Law and Language (FHB) University Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang upon presentation and oral examination conducted on the Ninth day of August, 2023.

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PAGE OF MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Instead of regretting because never try,
I think it is much better regretting after trying.” - Nurul Dina W.

“If you feel in the darkness, that’s fine. Cause you need to be in the dark in order
to shine the brightest.” - Hong Joochan.

“We should be able to ask ourselves what it is that we like and what our dreams
are. If we listen to the voice of our heart,
there will be more opportunities for us to be happy.” - Kim Sung Kyu

Dedicate to

Nurul Dina Wijayanti

My beloved parents, sisters and brother

My honorable lectures

All my friends

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All the praises and thanks be to Allah Almighty, who has given strength, easiness, guidance, chance, and endurance so the researcher could compose and complete this Final Project, entitled „The Ego Defense Mechanism of the Main Character Charlie in The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky“. The researcher would like to express gratitude to all these people who have contributed help to the researcher, the following people:

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4. The researcher's family, Tukimo and beloved mother, Satiyem (deceased), Noviana, Septiani, and Yusuf who have provided a lot of support, pray, care, and motivation.

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Hopefully this research paper can be useful and helpful especially for students of English Literature Department in University of Stikubank Semarang and also the broader society. The researcher realizes that this research paper is far from being perfect so positive support will be needed. The researcher requires feedback and suggestion in order to better in the future.

Semarang, July 21 2023

Nurul Dina Wijayanti

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ABSTRAK

Wijayanti, Nurul Dina, 2023. „*The Ego Defense Mechanism of the Main Character Charlie in The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky*“. Sebuah Tesis, Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Program Sarjana di Universitas Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Pembimbing: Yulistiyanti, S.S., M.Hum.

Keywords: Psikoanalisa, Mekanisme pertahanan ego, Trauma, Kecemasan, Ketakutan

Penelitian merupakan tentang mekanisme pertahanan ego sebagai salah satu cara atau metode bagi seseorang yang mengalami trauma untuk mengatasi atau menangani kecemasan, ketakutan, dan stres atau depresi. Penelitian ini membahas tentang mekanisme pertahanan ego yang terjadi dalam novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, khususnya pada tokoh utama Charlie. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah mekanisme pertahanan ego oleh Sigmund Freud. Data penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif untuk mendeskripsikan fenomena mekanisme pertahanan ego, dimana data diambil dari novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Penemuan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan tokoh utama melakukan semua id, ego and superego dalam hidupnya. Disamping itu, dia juga menggunakan jenis mekanisme pertahanan ego seperti regresi dan sublimasi untuk mengatasi atau menangani trauma, kecemasan dan ketakutannya. Selain itu, ada penyebab mekanisme pertahanan ego dilakukan oleh tokoh utama karena trauma dari sahabatnya bunuh diri, trauma dan depresi karena kematian bibinya, dan trauma karena pelecehan seksual yang dilakukan oleh bibinya.

ABSTRACT

Wijayanti, Nurul Dina, 2023. „The Ego Defense Mechanism of the Main Character Charlie in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky“. A Thesis, Program Study of English Literature, Undergraduate Degree Program in University Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Supervisor: Yulistiyanti, S.S., M.Hum.

Keywords: Psychoanalysis, Ego defense mechanism, Trauma, Anxiety, Fear

The research is about the ego defense mechanism as one of the ways or methods for traumatized person to solve and or handle their anxiety, fear, stress, or depression. This research discusses the ego defense mechanism that happens in the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, especially in the main character, Charlie. The theory used in this research is the ego defense mechanism by Sigmund Freud. The data research uses a qualitative method to describe the phenomenon of the ego defense mechanism, where the data is taken from the novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky. The findings show the main character taking on all of the id, ego, and superego activities throughout his life. In addition, he utilizes the types of ego defense mechanisms such as regression and sublimation to cope with or handle his trauma, anxiety, and fear. Also, there are causes that the main character doing the ego defense mechanism because of trauma from his best friend's suicide, trauma and depression from his aunt's death, and trauma of sexual abuse by his aunt.