



**The Fixation Impact on Incest Victimization as reflected in
Tallent's *My Absolute Darling*: a Psychoanalysis Study**

A Final Project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements

for the Bachelor's Degree in English

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DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY

I, Anna Vionita, declare that this final project entitled *The Fixation Impact on Incest Victimization as reflected in Tallent's My Absolute Darling: a Psychoanalysis Study* is my own work and has not been submitted in any form or another degree or diploma at any university or other institute of tertiary education. Information derived from published and unpublished works of others have been acknowledged in the text, and a list of references is given in the bibliography.

Semarang, 13 Mei 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Vionita', with a small '+' symbol above the first letter 'A'.

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good”

(Romans 12:9)

To:

My beloved parents

My awesome siblings

My amazing Friends

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Praise to God Almighty. My deepest gratitude goes to Jesus Christ, my God and Saviour who always gives me strength and grace so that the writer can finish this final project.

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The writer realizes this final project is far from perfect, therefore the writer expects constructive suggestions, comments, and critics.

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ABSTRACT

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Fixation is considered as a psychological problem because it causes an individual unable to be a 'normal person' who can meet the society's expectation. This final project aimed at analysing the fixation impact on the incest victimization as reflected on Gabriel Tallent's *My Absolute Darling*. The problems of this study are: first, how the main character (Julia) develops her Fixation, second, the impact of her fixation on her victimization in incest relationship, and third how Julia finally resolves the incest relationship. In doing this study, I applied descriptive qualitative method. In terms of collecting data, there were: critical reading, identifying, inventorying, classifying, selecting and reporting. In this study, the Freudian psychoanalysis was used to observe the main character's psychology. As a result, it was found out that Julia was stuck in the phallic stage or suffered from fixation because of her mother's death in early childhood, and her needs as a child were not satisfied in the ego and superego formation. Being triggered by her father's Eros love Julia was trapped in the incest relationship with him. As a victim and a daughter who had fixation, she expressed *Storge* and *Eros* love towards her father; she also showed her identity confusions trapped between passivity and masculinity. Her passivity was shown upon receiving her father's abuses specifically sexual abuse as a result of her status as a castrated girl, on the other hand she was aggressive by showing her masculine traits because of her identification with perpetrator and her wish to have power like a man. Then, the development of superego and identification with women figure made her able to put an end of the incest and finally she became a teenager who led a normal life; it was a mark of entering the higher psychosexual stage, Latency where Julia took a rest from the conflicts and lived peacefully with same sex parent figure.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is an introduction of the study consisting of six sub-chapters, the background of the study, reasons for choosing the topic, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study and outline of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

There is no perfect definition of love; yet a short definition suggests that love means a deep feeling of affection. It is only human beings who are capable to love either living or non-living creatures. As the existence of love defines humanity, it has been everyone's favorite topic to talk about including in the novel. Many kinds of love stories have been issued across the world from happy to tragic one, expressing writers' thought and creativity.

Shakespeare in 1590s wrote his famous classical tragic love story Romeo and Juliet depicting how a couple's love was restricted upon family and society's rules. It is believed he was inspired by Verona's love story in 1303. Then and now, society always plays an important role in someone's life. Either written or unwritten laws in society should be met if someone wants to lead a happy life. Those laws are shaped by people's deepest thoughts about humanity; it becomes taboo for people to break the laws. Taboo is not an absolute universal law, it might be sacred and unclean depends on where and who live in certain area, like Freud's statement as cited in the book Totem and Taboo (2004) "The meaning of 'taboo', as we see it,

diverges in two contrary directions. To us it means, on the one hand, 'sacred', 'consecrated', and on the other 'uncanny', 'dangerous', 'forbidden', 'unclean'.

In the case of love relationship, taboo relationship could be in forms of same sex, incest relationship and etc. Again, the rules are flexible depending on time and culture they are applied. Incest relationship for example, was mostly practiced by some tribes and royal families long time ago to maintain the power in society like the European royalty in the nineteenth and twentieth century. However from time to time the majority people agree that the practice of incest is worst and should be banished. The incest is usually followed by other other actions like exploitation, abuse and degradation. A research which was an analysis of the incest data in an university hospital in Turkey found out that out of 43 incest cases (36 females and 7 males) the 34.9% was a father-daughter incest. In addition, all preparators of the incest cases were men which targeted under 18 years old girls (available at ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

In *My Absolute Darling* by Gabriel Tallent, the portrayal of incest relationship between father and daughter goes deeper into psychological issues of the daughter as a victim. This novel becomes controversial for the intense abuse scenes and its depiction of non-typical victim. The victim, a 14 year-old daughter, does not show usual responses like hatred but also has deep affection towards perpetrator, which is her own father. The researcher believes that by observing the main character's personality in the light of psychoanalytical approach, the reasons behind the character's behavior as a non-typical victim can be understood.

Specifically, it is psychoanalysis, an approach pioneered by Sigmund Freud will be used; his concepts like Oedipus complex, Fixation, Tripartite, and etc are really useful to reveal the psychological issues of the incest victim in the novel *My Absolute Darling*.

In short, this final project uses psychological approach proposed by Freud to analyze the problem, the psychoanalysis of non-typical incest victim as reflected in *My Absolute Darling*.

1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic

In choosing the topic, the writer has some reasons. Firstly, *My absolute darling* is one of popular recent novels published in 2017; it has been a literary sensation since a famous writer, Stephen King recommends it widely to the readers, put it in the same line with some major literary works. He states, “There are books we like well enough to recommend, but there are a very few—*To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Catch-22*, *The Things They Carried*—that we remember forever. To my own shortlist I can now add *My Absolute Darling*, by Gabriel Tallent.” Despite many glittery comments and achievements; this novel also becomes controversial among readers. The taboo topic relationship which is depicted with many abusive scenes is unbearable for some readers. On, the other hands, for readers who appreciate it, this novel raises an importance theme to be paid attention.

Secondly, dig deeper into the story, *My Absolute Darling* is a deep psychological novel, it is not only presents how taboo relationship is but it goes deeper into the psychology of the main characters especially the daughter, Turtle is

showing how actually the brain and feeling of a victim goes on. She has suffered from unconscious psychological issues that can be revealed by using Freudian theories.

Lastly, not many researches about incest relationship are conducted especially those which go deeper into the victim's psychology in which actually unconscious. The majority of researches use Freudian theories to analyze 'Oedipus Complex' in mother-son relationship, meanwhile not many discuss about the female version of Oedipus complex to shade the incest relationship from the victim point of view.

1.3 Research Questions

- 1) How does the development of the main character's fixation?
- 2) How does the impacts of fixation on Julia's victimization?
- 3) How does the resolution of incest?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

- 1) Finding out how the main character develops fixation
- 2) Revealing the impacts of fixation towards Julia's status as a victim of incest
- 3) Finding out how the incest relationship is resolved

1.5 Significances of the Study

This final project would be useful for :

1. The Students of the English Department

The study is expected to give explanations to the students about incest relationship phenomenon, how it is seen from Freudian perspective to reveal the causes and how does it finally resolve.

2. The Faculty

The outcome of this study is expected to give contribution to Faculty Languages and Arts of Universitas Negeri Semarang in the development of incest relationship. So that, it can be a useful reference if any researcher wants to conduct the same topic.

1.6 Outline of the Study Report

The outline of the study report is as the following :

Chapter I is the introduction divided into background of the study, reasons for choosing the topic, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and outline of the study.

Chapter II is review of related literature consisting of three sub-chapters, review of previous study, review of theoretical study, and theoretical framework of analysis.

Chapter III is research methodology made up of object of the study, types of the data, roles of the researcher, procedures of collecting data, and techniques of the data analysis.

Chapter IV is findings and discussions. In this chapter the research problems are answered. Firstly, Julia's fixation on the phallic stage, secondly, the fixation impact on incest relationship and thirdly, the way the incest relationship is resolved.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. In the last chapter, the researcher would give the conclusion of the research as well as suggestions for those who would like to conduct the same research.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter presents the theories which are related to the topic of study taking from various sources and references such as journals, articles and books. This chapter also reviews the related previous studies. The terms of psychology and the applied approach are described in this session.

2.1 Review of the Previous Study

The study about incest relationship between father and daughter seeing from Freudian psychoanalysis is not a new thing but it is not being discussed often. Below are some related previous studies used by the writer as references; even though the writer cannot find any research using the same object '*My Absolute Darling*', these studies raise related topics that give significant contribution in conducting this study.

First of all, discussing about incest there is a final project by Iva Wulandari (2013) titled 'Incest in African American Society in Sapphire's *Push*'. She observes all elements in incest relationship such as the causes, effects and the society's responses. To answer such a broad topic, she conducts her study by using sociological approach and content analysis technique. The various theories from field sociology and psychology are combined. She argues that one of the reasons she is decided to analyze *Push* because its uniqueness, it does not concentrate on trauma memory, but also on the recovery process of the main character.

Another study is presented by Sofie Forsgren from Luleå University of Technology (2013), she raises a topic “I so identify myself with him” *Identification in Wuthering Heights and The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. Although this essay uses psychoanalytic feminism as a lens, this is still useful because as writer argues by citing Madsen 95, psychoanalytical feminism ‘is built around Sigmund Freud’s theory of psychosexual development and Jacques Lacan’s work’. This thesis explores identification process of women characters in those two novels. Seeing from this lens, the father would be considered as an oppressor who has control upon woman since a woman is a child. The results of study show the similarities and main characters’ different ways in gaining identification process, if Catherine as the protagonist of Wuthering Heights cannot be fitted into Freud's theory of 'penis envy', Helen on the other hand, is suitable to the theory. Helen substitutes her mother and father with her aunt and uncle. Catherine embodies more Erikson's psychosocial development theory by not letting her patriarch father defines her but rather the society in a figure of Heathcliff. On the other hand, Helen is gaining identity from her aunt and uncle as substitution of her father and mother not from the society.

Third, there is Kafi Fatima’s thesis with topic ‘*Trauma Theory and Electra Complex: the Case of the Two Main Characters in Vladimir Nabokov’s Lolita*’ (2015). In her statement, she expresses how aware she is about ‘usefulness of psychoanalysis in understanding a fictional character’s psychological conflicts and on the urgent need to equip learners with this theoretical knowledge for a better appreciation and interpretation of literature’. Thus, in her study she presents useful

insights for those who want to do a study using psychoanalysis by exploring many Freudian theories and providing some activities that could be done in EFL/ESL classroom situation. She aims to explore the novel 'Lolita' using various Freudian concepts particularly trauma, Electra complex and repression. It is found out that the two main characters specifically Humbert Humbert is suffering from trauma because of traumatic events he has been through since childhood, resulting in the disorders such as pedophilia. Meanwhile, Lolita is having Electra Complex issue that make them trapped in such incest relationship.

Fourth, to fulfill a master degree's requirement, Emily Sgarlata, B.S.Ed in 2009 studied 'Desire Versus Conscience: Development of the Id and the Ego in Ian McEwan's Fiction'. The novels written by McEwan have been widely known, its theme range from human relationship to story. The researcher who is a fan of McEwan works is interested to analyze his later works only because she thinks they are 'more introspective, less shocking, and more deep'. She uses the Freudian concepts like id, ego and superego to reveal the characters' psyche to get the essences of his brand new works.

Last but not least, paying attention to the controversy of Freudian's theories that started to happen in US in 1960, Suzan Voncken, in her MA eassy observed the problem in an essay research titled 'Freud in Fiction: The Representation Of The Oedipus Complex In 1960s American Literature.' She compares five 1960s novels written by male and female writers as representation of popular culture, aiming to find out the existence of Freudian controversy concepts; The five novels

are: *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath, *I Never Promised you a Rose Garden* by Joanne Greenberg, *Portnoy's Complaint* by Philip Roth, and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey. However it is not done by looking for characters' comments on Freudian concepts but it is 'a psychoanalytic reading of the protagonists' development in order to explore Freud's resonance in literature'. In which the writer focuses only in the phallic stage that are experienced by the characters.

2.2 Review of Theoretical Studies

The related theories taken from various sources are going to be explored in this session.

2.2.1 Incest Relationship

Socializing with other humans creates many types of relationship. It could be morally right or wrong seen from the various perspectives in the society. Incest is taken from the Latin word *incestus or incestum* which means 'not clean'. The further definition in the book 'The Encyclopedia of Child Abuse' suggests incest as 'a sexual act between an adult and child who are related to each other', in which the case of sexual relationship with non-biological parent is also considered as incest in certain areas because of its parental relationship. The book then categorizes the incest into sexual assault, as a form of sexual abuse by stating "Sexual assault includes rape, statutory rape, rape in concert, incest, sodomy, lewd or lascivious acts upon a child, oral copulation, sexual penetration or child molestation" (2007).

Being considered as a sexual abuse, in incest relationship there is an aggressor and a victim similar with the other types of abusive relationship. The

compelling evidence says, “Female children are regularly subjected to sexual assaults by adult males who are part of their intimate social world. The aggressors are not outcasts and strangers; they are neighbors, family friends, uncles, cousins, stepfathers, and fathers” (Herman and Hirschman 2003:7). It is obvious upon looking at the relationship between parent and a child; the parental figure is the one who hold the power on a child’s life because in the young age he or she is really dependent for survival, and the unconditional protection and nurturance are needed to experience healthy development (Herman and Hirschman, 2003:7). When parental figure fails to give proper nurturance, both of them will likely show psychological issues; the aggressor often has showed malignant narcissism symptoms and/ poor reality testing in the earlier childhood, meanwhile child victim usually develops helplessness and rage inherited from the aggressor (Blackman, 2016:91). In order to dig deeper into the incest relationship in this novel, it becomes necessary to examine the other abuses which are classified by The Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (see National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect [NCCAN], 1988).

1. Physical Abuse: A crime which is resulted in physical harm, the worst is caused death to a child.
2. Sexual Abuse: the sexual acts including penetration, molestation with genital contact or other forms, the victims are taken as an object to satisfy the perpetrator’s sexual desire.
3. Emotional Abuse: any abuse in a form of verbal rather than physical which is caused emotionally drained including withholding sleep, food or shelter.

The three types of abuse above are commonly found in the parent-children relationship, however in the incest relationship with the perpetrator they serve as triggers of a victim to be in the taboo relationship for a period of time. As a victim a child either boy or girl will likely develop confusion, identification with the aggressor, guilt, lack of confidence and feelings of shame.

2.2.2 Type of Love

The abuses found in incest relationship do not suggest that there is no love between the perpetrator and a victim. They still have love towards each other but what differentiates is type of love they have comparing to the normal people. A famous classification of love is based on Bible which are presented in Greek words, *Eros*, *Storge*, *Philia*, and *Agape* (available at geb.tv).

1. Eros is a sensual or romantic love. The love is based only on the sexual desire, and physical attraction. In addition, cited from pastorbob.net, eros is also called “the love of pleasure” because someone who has it will have these characteristics; too self-centered, too preoccupied with desire, and too focused on pleasure.
2. Storge is family love, this type of love exist in the relationship between parents and children or brothers and sisters.
3. Philia is an intimate love which are usually practiced by religious people, it is driven by the emotional bound of a deep friendship.

4. Agape as the highest type of Love in Bible is perfect, unconditional, sacrificial, and pure. It is kind of love that God has for humankind.

Someone who practices agape must have achieved the true meaning of life.

2.2.3 Psychological Approach

Psychology is an everyday matter of human beings. Experiencing psychological problems, people mostly can't explain the problems they have, that is why a psychiatrist is needed to put the problems into realization. The same thing is in literary analysis case. The reader is playing a role as a psychiatrist with psychological theory as a tool to explain psychological matters of an author, characters or readers. The evolution of psychological approach is described shortly by Selden et al (2005). Sigmund Freud initially looked at literary work as a fantasy, it is a symptom of the artist, where the author and text are related like dreamers and text. Then it emerged into post-Freudians, making the readers actively interpret an artwork which is called a reader response. Then, Carl Jung as an opposition of Freud then brought up the idea about 'representation of the relationship between the personal and the collective unconscious, the images, myths, symbols, 'archetypes' of past cultures.'

2.2.3.1 Freud's Psychoanalysis

Freudian concept of psyche which is called as classical psychoanalysis has been used widely during his lifetime (1856–1939) and until today, he was the first one who named and explained many psychological concepts by developing theories about the workings of 'human psyche, its formation, its organization, and its

maladies'(Dobie, 2015:54); Freud has given significant contributions to the other fields such as philosophy, medicine, sociology, and literary criticism.

In literature, Freudian theories are useful in helping the readers to get deeper understanding of themes in Western literature and providing a framework to make character analysis more perceptive. In addition, Dobie (2015:54) believes 'with Freudian theory it is possible to discover what is not said directly, perhaps even what the author did not realize he was saying, and to read between (or perhaps beneath) the lines'.

2.2.3.1.1 The Dynamic Model: Unconscious

Life is not always filled with happiness, it is when at the frustrated moments people will face their true self. When an individual experiences bad events in life, the unhealthy emotions are likely to appear such as guilty, fears, and overwhelm which unconsciously later would be wounds deep inside. The wounds will be likely pushed down into unconsciousness, since then they exist in disguised and haunt that person until their existence are moved into realization 'unconscious is a dynamic entity that engages us at the deepest level of our being until we find a way to know and acknowledge' (Tyson, 2006:12-13).

2.2.3.1.2 The Tripartite Psyche: Id, Ego, Super Ego

Further, in thebook 'Critical Theory Today' states that Libido is human biological instinct like the feelings of hunger, sex, and other body desires. It works based on the pleasure principle and needs an immediate gratification. What lies ahead against

its fulfillment is not considered, resulting lawless, asocial and amoral actions. Like what Freud (1933) says in the following quotation:

... the logical laws of thought do not apply in the *id*, and this is true above all of the law of contradiction. Contrary impulses exist side by side, without cancelling each other out or diminishing each other...no alterations in its mental processes is produced by the passage of time.

An example taken from the book 'Monotype Composition', when a baby is hungry for he cannot talk, he just cries out loud and will not stop crying before his parents give what he wants 'the food'. Because the ego and superego are not developed yet, there is nothing can hold her/him in fulfilling the instant gratification wishes (1990).

Tyson (2016:225) states that the ego is derived from Greek and Latin word, which means I or self. The self is conscious part that experiences a lot of things in life through senses; it operates as a referee between id and superego; telling the difference between real and imaginary. In some cases ego helps to holds the gratification of id or changes into socially acceptable by finding an appropriate time (Atkinson et al, 2006:284).

Superego is a storehouse of values learned from family and society that has been developed by an individual since preschool years. Freud emphasized the importance of the parent figure as reflected in his statement:

The long period of childhood, during which the growing human being lives is dependence upon his parents, leaves behind it a precipitate, which forms within his ego a special agency in which this parental influence is prolonged. It receives the name of *super-ego* (Freud, 1933:59).

The set of rules he/she has internalized is useful to fight the Id. Superego wins if he or she meet the integrated morality values not the instinctual desires (id) and the satisfaction feeling will come up, whilst if the superego loses the battle, that person feel guilty depends on how important the values are (Bode, 2015:36). However, the process of learning value is not simple, there would be crash against each other. For example, in some cases, a person could learn good and bad values altogether, like destructive aggression, and loving feelings. Lear (2005) further gives explanation that the role of superego is triggering individual to follow the community's expectation which is started from parental figures. Leading that person from 'individual psychology to group psychology', she will be responding and responsible towards others.

2.2.3.1.3 Anxiety and self defense mechanisms:

In the latency period, an individual will develop some ego defense mechanisms in facing the anxiety. Freud formulates anxiety simply the ego's perception against the danger. If there are conflicts between the ego and the id, neurotic symptoms in person will appear. Adding his father's definition, Anna Freud formulates three kinds of anxiety as stated by Palombo (2009).

1. Instinctual anxiety, the conflict between the id and ego, the defense against instinctual impulses is conducted.
2. Superego anxiety, the ego and the superego conflict. The instinctual libidinal or Id is appeared in consciousness, because it is unacceptable by superego, the set of defenses then emerge in the ego.

3. Objective anxiety is ego defenses rooted from forces outside the self. The conflict is between the ego and the external world.

Self defense mechanisms are set of actions to protect an individual from unwanted feelings raised by the anxieties discussed above. The first defense will be discussed is sublimation, it turns the undesirable feelings and thoughts into all forms of human creativity such as artistic, scientific, philosophical. The act would be accepted by society because it has positive values on society.

The next is identification, a transformation process of oneself into another person. It is such a fantasy because an individual will take the identified figure's behaviors.

Then, there is also Reaction formation: In reaction formation, a person's unconscious takes on the beliefs that are opposite of the true desires, those repressed in the unconscious. This protects the conscious part of the mind from what the unconscious considers to be awful.

2.2.3.1.4 Psychosexual Development

The following table is a set of an individual psychosexual development stages; on Freud theorized that in the early years of life a child has started to have sexual conflicts from different erogenous zone of body. Each stage must be passed successfully before the child can move into the next one, Schultz (2009). The writer will explain each stage but concern more to the phallic, latency and genital stages because those are the stages that the main character, Turtle is struggling to get

through. The presented definition below is taken from the book ‘Monotype Composition (1990)’ and Bode’s thesis (2015).

TABLE 2.1

Freud’s Psychosexual Stages

Stage	Approximate Ages	Main Features
1. Oral	Birth, 1/2 or 2	Mouth, dependency
2. Anal	1/2–3	Toilet training, give and take
3. Phallic	3–6	Oedipus complex, identification, superego
4. Latency	6–12	Repression of sexuality
5. Genital	12–Adulthood	Development of normal sexuality

1. Oral

The oral is the first step of a baby getting to know the world, the baby is now filled with ID in which oral activity is the focus, and it works based on the pleasure principle. The baby wants to put everything inside his or her mouth because putting mom’s breast is the only thing she/he can remember the taste.

2. Anal

At the age around 1 1/2–3, a child is taught by parents to be responsible of his own body by emptying his or her own bowels. This stage is important in the development of self-image because the parent is paid much attention to this stage; it is the first time his or her child learns to do a job. It also becomes a pleasure thing for a child to satisfy the parent’s wish. The training must be balance in order to shape a good

personality, if the way is too strict, the child, according to Freud will be, 'orderly, parsimonious, and obstinate'.

3. Phallic

Both boys and girls are believed have different problems yet the concept 'Oedipus complex' could be used for both. This stage is marked with a child realization upon their body, finding out if he or she has the symbol of power, penis. Freud also paid attention towards the girls' psychology although he had a hard time to understand girls' development. At first, Freud proposed similar idea of girls' Oedipus Complex only it was a reversed version of boys, but starting from 1925, he has formulated a new theory. Similar with boys, girls see mother as the main source of love, but later in the pre-Oedipal period the penis envy is appeared. Penis envy, is the feeling of jealousy for not having a penis; in order to be powerful and possessive, they begin to find out the penis substitute they lack of by being the same like the boys

It can be seen through their actions, they are following boys' activities and being obsessed with things which have the shape of penis like unicorn, gun and etc. Upon realizing that they cannot get the penis, a girl "gives up her wish for a penis and puts in place a wish for a child". In any case, the girl "may refuse to accept the fact of being castrated, may harden herself in the conviction that she does possess a penis and may subsequently be compelled to behave as though she were a man". In the disappointment, the father actually changes to be the object of the daughter's love, meanwhile the mother is seen as a rival.

4. Latency

This is a stage where a sexual urge takes a rest for a while after the identification with mother figure has been achieved; the urge is still existed yet at the minimum. Gender based groups are formed in this stage, girls will stay away from boys because they are too shy. It is also mark with the strengthen superego shaping from adults and same sex peer (Bode, 2015:33).

5. Genital

This is the final stage; the sexual interest is reappeared again, leading into mature affection and love (Bode, 2015:33).

2.2.3.1.5 Fixation

Palombo (2009) states that Fixation is ‘an arrest at a phase of development become of difficulties the child cannot overcome’. In other words, when a child gets improper treatments from caregivers, society, or other role models, it could be in a form of excessive or lack of care; the child will be stuck in a certain stage and cannot move on to the other stage, and as a result he or she will not have mature psychology like a ‘normal child’. Rycroft (1995:58) also defines fixation as a process when a person is attached to an object which exists in the earlier stage of development. Further he explains about the tendency of a person who suffers from fixation, as cited below:

- (a) engage in infantile, outmoded patterns of behaviour or to regress
- (b) choose compulsively objects on the basis of their resemblance to the one on which he is fixated.

- (c) suffer impoverishment of available energy as a result of his investment in the past object. Excessive frustration and satisfaction, excessive love and hate have all been adduced as causes of fixation.

2.2.3.1.6 Resolution of Oedipus complex

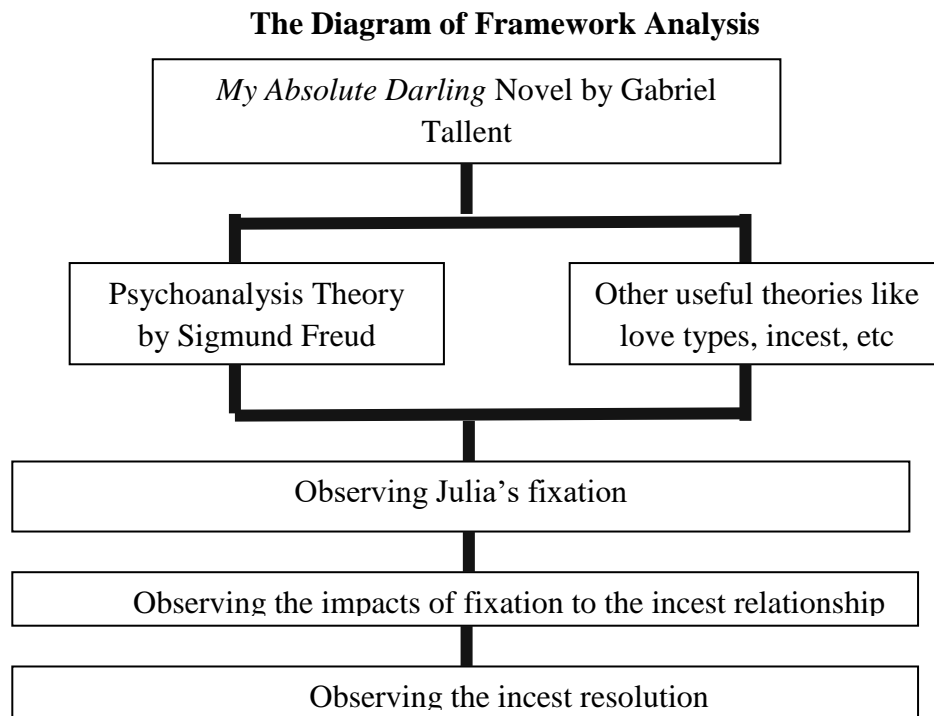
Lear (2005) makes a conclusion from Freud psychosexual development theories that the Oedipus complex can be resolved in many ways, two of them are development of superego and identifications with both parents. It is also stated by Palombo (2009) that a satisfactory resolution of Oedipus complex depends on the functional incest barrier which is shaped by identification and the superego formation; then an individual can move on experiencing a positive latency period. Identification is 'the process through which a child acquires characteristics of an adult to whom the child becomes attached', it is important to build the penis envy can determine what is considered the most important part of femininity: the heterosexual desire towards men and the wish for motherhood and children.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

In this final project, the writer wants to analyze the psychological issues of an incest victim in *My Absolute Darling*. Therefore, the psychoanalysis approach which is pioneered by Sigmund Freud is being used.

In solving the problems in research questions, the writer uses various theories from Sigmund Freud. There are three steps the writer done to expose the psychological issues of the main character. The first, the writer explores intrinsic elements to find out the fixation development. Then, the psychological effects of the fixation are discussed. Last but not least, the plot of the story where the main

character can be escaped from the incest is discussed in Freudian way. The diagram below is presented to make the framework of analysis easier to be understood:



move into Latency which she lives peacefully with a mother figure, Anna. In addition, her gardening activity is actually a sublimation of the anxiety she has got from traumatic event (killing her father) and the residue of her Id towards her dead father.

5.2 Suggestions

Upon drawing the above conclusions, there are several suggestions corresponding to the topic for the researcher, the next researchers, and the readers. First, in the novel *My Absolute Darling* the researcher finds the realistic although in rare care the portrayal of psychological issues of incest victim who has deep love towards the perpetrator. It is important topic to be discussed in the light of psychoanalysis to understand it better.

Next, this research is expected to be a useful reference for the next researchers in the psychoanalysis topic. There are other topics can be discussed using this novel, such as the identity crisis of an adolescent girl by using Psychosocial theories by Erik Erickson, and also the natural destruction in the hand of patriarchal society by using Eco-feminism approach.

Finally, for the readers, particularly the young-adults who are interested in the psychological issues of a teenager, or the victimization of incest, it will be useful research to be read. It can be broaden the readers' knowledge about the issues as well as the Freudian theories.

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