#### BISEXUALITY IN ANDRE ACIMAN'S CALL ME BY YOUR NAME

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#### Abstract

Penelitian ini fokus pada karakter biseksualitas dalam novel Call Me by Your Name oleh Andre Aciman. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan gejala, faktor dan struktur kepribadian biseksualitas Elio dan Oliver. Penulis menerapkan pendekatan intrinsik dan ekstrinsik. Analisis ini dibagi menjadi tiga masalah utama dan analisis ini menggunakan, teori orientasi seksual, biseksualitas, queer dan struktur kepribadian yang terkait dengan karakter laki-laki dalam novel fokus dari penelitian ini pada bagaimana biseksualitas tergambar dalam novel seperti Elio Perlman dan Oliver. Penulis juga menemukan dua penyebab biseksual Elio karena faktor internal dan faktor eksternal. Yang ketiga adalah struktur kepribadian, penulis menemukan bahwa Elio Parlman yang berusia 17 tahun memiliki orientasi seksual yang tidak normal, mengejar hubungan dengan Oliver. Terlepas dari seberapa besar mereka menikmati menghabiskan waktu bersama, Oliver merasa gugup karena mengambil terlalu banyak hal, baik karena Elio lebih muda dan karena Oliver takut tentang potensi prasangka sosial. Namun, Elio terus mendorong, menguji batas kemampuannya dengan Oliver, dan mencoba mengubah godaan kasual mereka menjadi sesuatu yang lebih. Kurang berpengalaman secara romantis, Elio berjuang untuk mencari tahu bagaimana mengekspresikan perasaannya kepada Oliver, Elio dan Oliver memiliki struktur kepribadian yang tidak seimbang sehingga ego mereka didominasi oleh id.

Kata kunci: Biseksualitas, Orientasi Seksual, Queer, Struktur Kepribadian

#### INTRODUCTION

God created men and women to be together. Predestine them to pair up and embrace each other. But for some people following the rules in life is not easy there are some people who are sexually and emotionally attracted to other people of the same sex and they assume this is a natural thing. Sexual Orientation plays an important role in the develoment of human behavior and human personality. Sexual orientation is the largest in the human sex (Ngun, 2014). Sexual orientation has an interest in men, women or both (Bailey, 2016). Humans who are attracted to different sexes are called heterosexuals. The humans who are attracted to the same sexes are called homosexuals and humans who are attracted to both are called bisexuals. Among the three, only heterosexuals are considered a normal sexual orientation. Bisexual has a very strong interest in women and men both

romantically, intellectually, and sexually. This attraction can happen to two people at the same time or different. Many novels have Bisexual themes, one of which is *Call Me by Your Name* by Andre Aciman (2007). Elio who likes a man named Oliver at the same time he likes a woman also named Marzia. Likewise, Oliver liked Elio at the same time he was in a relationship with a woman named Chiara..

# REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### **Previous Study**

In this chapter, the author will explain the difference between their research and previous research. Following the previous LGBT research:

Deni Herdianto (2016), a student of Departement of English, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 had study of "Bisexuality in James Bladwin's Giovanni's Room adds the point that she focuses on finding the causes and effect of David's bisexuality. the author concludes why David became a bisexual because of his father's mistreatment so David he decided not to identify himself with the masculine. (Herdianto, 2016).

Elizabeth Ayudya Ratna Rininta (2017), a student of Sastra Indonesia, Universitas Sananta Dharma had study of "Dinamika Struktur Kepribadian dan Identitas Gender Tokoh Sasana Dalam Novel Pasung Jiwa Karya Okky Madasari". She focused on the analyzed Dynamics of Personality. The writer uses theory of psychoanalisis to identify and classify the data. The writer concluded that Analysis of the structure and protection of the personality of the

Sasana, The character of the sasana has a strong id encouragement by wanting a woman or a famous dangdut singer but her id and ego are blocked by the superego in capturing her desires, the gym develops dynamics personality (Rininta 2017).

# **Bisexual Symptoms**

Sexual orientation and desire like, such as heterosexuality, same-sex sexuality, or bisexuality (Stu Marvel, 2015).

# 1. Heterosexuality

Heterosexuality is a tendency to engage in emotional and romantic sexual allure with other people who have different sexes with themselves. In this case, sexual activity is carried out with other people who have different sexes, such as men and women or vice versa. Someone who has sex with the opposite sex is called heterosexual (Daniel Knight, MD, 2008)

## 2. Homosexual

Homosexuality is a sexual orientation involving two people who are biological sex. Homosexuality is divided into two labels, namely gay and lesbian. Lesbian is a relationship between female-female, while Gay is male-male. a homosexual who is sexually fond of the same sex (Daniel A. Knight, MD, 2008).

## 3. Bisexual

Someone who has had sexual experiences with or even is only interested in people with more than one sex can be described as bisexual.

Bisexual likes two sexes at the same time. (Daniel A. Knight, MD 2008).

#### **Factors of Bisexuality**

Sexual orientation is caused by complex interactions between biological, environmental, and family factors

Various studies suggest that LGBT is related to genetics, race, or hormones. Homosexual people tend to do homosexuals because they get a push from the body which is decreased or genetic. Genetics can affect a person's sexual orientation Bailey, J.M (2000)

Peer groups, family, and culture have harmful effects in shaping sexual orientation and sexual behavior. Baumle (2010) has investigated the intersection of ethnicity and sexual orientation between Americans and bordered Mexicans. The results showed that the role of ethnicity at the border had contributed to the American and Mexican people who lived together and made them homosexual (gay and lesbian).

Growth period is one of the factors that can explain why individuals tend to have a more specific sexual orientation" (Santrock, 2006), (Sigelman and Rider, 2009) explain development refers to the process of change and gain stability in sexual orientation. More specifically sexual been affected orientation has experiences throughout their lifetime, from the womb and the beginning of life to the stage of orientation, which is in adolescence. That one of the tasks of development in adolescence is to

determine sexual orientation (Saewyc, 2004).

The family greatly influences sexual orientation Dilorio (2004), also has researched the possibility of sexual situations that can trigger sexual behavior in adolescents. In that study, Dilorio (2004) friends and family are the most powerful factors to influence sexual orientation and sexual behavior in adolescents. That means the family is the main figure for their child. Children will follow their parents in a variety of habits and behavior so that family is one of the most important elements in the formation of a child's sexual behavior and orientation.

## **Personality Structure**

3 elements of personality are Id, Ego, and Superego:

## 1. Id

According to Bertens (2006: 32-33), The id represents the instinctual part of personality, which is entirely unconscious. This means that id is the most basic original personality system that is carried from birth. From this id then ego and superego will emerge. At birth, the id contains all the psychological aspects inherited, such as instincts, impulses, and drives.

#### 2. Ego

According to Freud (in Bertens 2006: 33), the ego is formed by differentiation from the id because of its contact with the outside world, especially people around small babies such as parents, caregivers, and siblings. Ego the component of personality that is responsible for regulating reality.

# 3. Superego

Superego: To develop personality, superego is a personality that maintains all moral internalization standards. And the ideals that we get from both appearance and society.

#### Research Method

The method used in this research is descriptive method with content analysis technique. As research procedure that results in descriptive data in the written word (Dowson 2002: 14). Researcher used this method to study and describe bisexual, male bisexuals in the novel. This study uses a qualitatative analysis Several steps were collected by conducting the data (1) Read the novel is the basic step. (2) Watch the movie while reading scripts to check the accuracy of the novel. (3) Item identifying the data.

#### **Analysis**

# 1.1 Elio Symptoms

Elio's first impression of Oliver was bad but he also paid attention to Oliver's appearance and body. "... I had almost fallen for the skin of is hand" (Aciman, 2007:12) Initially Elio, But Oliver, over time he admired Oliver because Oliver's physical appearance was very attractive to Elio.

Simultaneously Elio has a relationship with a woman named Marzia. Elio has a romantic relationship with Marzia "I took her hand and kissed her on the palm." (Aciman, p. 50). Elio really enjoyed his relationship with Marzia and he did it many times.

#### 4.2 Oliver Symptoms

Oliver is close to a woman named Chiara and she also enjoys his time with Chiara. "The thing with Chiara happened so easily it was past reckoning...." (Aciman, 2007: 43).

One day Elio and Oliver went swimming and they both kissed. Oliver held Elio's lips and kissed him. "...he liked my face and wished to study it and to linger on it" (Aciman, 2007: 80). Oliver enjoyed his relationship with Elio he wouldn't do that if he didn't like Elio

# 4.3 Factors Bisexuality4.3.1 Factors Elio's Bisexuality

Two indicators considered as the factor of their bisexuality, there are the internal factor and the external factor. Thus, the factors will be distinguished into two, Elio's bisexuality indicators and Oliver's bisexuality indicators.

In the novel, Elio's father was once a bisexual, and therefore Elio has genetic ancestry from his father

".. I may have come close, but I never had what you had. Something always held me back or stood in the way." (Aciman, 2007: 225).

Genetics can affect a person's sexual orientation Bailey, J.M (2000). The quote above explains that Mr. Perlman had experienced the same experience as Elio but he did not like what Elio had done, confessing his feelings to people of the same sex.

The second is the external indicator that influenced by the factor outside bisexual person. Elio's house often meets various types of people, as well as homosexual couples he meets

when they visit his home to meet his father. "I wondered what their life together was like." (Aciman, p. 115). An environment that is very influential for one's social identity thus Elio believes the family will not matter if he likes a fellow man.

The experience throughout one's life greatly influences sexual orientation, from the womb early in life to the stage of orientation which is in adolescence. That's the period of determining sexual orientation Elio is looking for his true identity. Elio corrects his upheaval and difficulty finding a compilation of identity with a free and open-minded adult man like Oliver. "Did I want to be like him? Did I want to be him? Or did I just want to have him?" (Aciman, 2007: 67). Elio wants to know his feelings, Eloi is confused he doesn't know

Elio felt comfortable expressing his feelings to Oliver because the Elion family did not care about someone's sexual orientation they did not judge someone from their sexual orientation.

"You had a beautiful friendship." (Aciman, 2007: 224).

Elio's Father Knowing what happened to Elio. His father gave advice on overcoming Oliver's disappearance in Elio's life. That proves Elio's father did not consider Elio's sexual orientation to be something strange. Has found that family and peer group factors have a strong influence on the development of sexual orientation and sexual behavior in adolescents (Dilorio, 2004).

#### **4.3.2 Factors Oliver Bisexuality**

The first factor being the bisexual Oliver is the Internal factor. Oliver's family background and life are not told in the novel but Oliver is a handsome, smart man, and considerable curiosity. Oliver always likes to learn something new in his life. Elio always, looking for Oliver's attention and Oliver knowing, Oliver also wanted to know about Elio so that brought him to the relationship bisexuality. this can happen because bisexual men have a curiosity that is much greater than heterosexual and homosexual. and external factors caused by around Oliver who lived with Elio's family for 6 weeks

# 4.3.3 Personality Structure

Elio invited Oliver to favorite place. Elio expressed his feelings for Oliver. Oliver touched Elio's lips with his finger ."He started me right in the face, as though he liked my face an wished to study it and to linger on it, then he touched my nether lip with his finger and let it travel left and right and right and left again and again as i lay there,..." (Aciman, 2007: 80) Elio's big impulse that was previously controlled by ego was defeated and ego channeled it by taking action to kiss Oliver.

Oliver stopped Elio's actions by saying "We can't do this i know my self. So far we've behaved, we've been good. Neither of us has dony anything to feel ashamed of. Let's keep it way. I want to be good". (Aciman, 2007: 82). Oliver's superego prohibits him not to make love with the same sex. Oliver's superego appears Oliver follows the side of his morality he does not want to do things

that deviate from the rules of his family and country. Oliver wants to look good in the eyes of the society.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the discussion and research results contained in Chapter IV the following conclusions can be drawn. The male character in *Call Me by Your Name*, by Andre Aciman, Elio and Oliver is described as a man who has a sexual disorder that is bisexual. Elio has a relationship with Marzia and Oliver, while Oliver has a relationship with Chiara and Elio.

Bisexual factors in the novel are divided into the first two internal factors and the second external factor. internal factors caused by Elio's father who was once a bisexual made Elio have bisexual genetics from his father. The first external factor from Elio's family that was very open they did not care about someone's sexual orientation and they did not mind the problem if Elio became a bisexual. The second factor is age, Elio is still young, he has a very high curiosity and therefore Elio wants to know more about his feelings and find his sexual identity. Likewise Oliver is curious about his feelings for Elio.

The personality structure of the main character Elio shows the impulse of the id system which is a core part of personality as a biological and completely unconscious impulse often urgently to be fulfilled. Id in Elio appears in the form of sex drive or libido on Oliver. The urge from the id affects Elio's psychic area in pursuit of his satisfaction and pleasure. Then the area of mind that has contact with reality

namely the ego provides defense in alleviating the anxiety and tension arising from the impulse of the other two mind regions, the id and the superego. His ego acts as a decision maker when his id urges his passion for Oliver, as well as when a superego emerges as a conscience that controls his attitude. Superego who has moralistic and idealistic principles sometimes does not provide a function in hindering Elio's insistence on Oliver.

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