

ABSTRACT

Markus Kurniadi Simatupang Registration Number 2173520028, Anxiety of Main Character of Veronica Roth in Divergent Novel, A Thesis, English Literature Program, English Language and Education Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, State University of Medan, 2024.

This thesis examines the anxiety experienced by the main character, Beatrice Prior, in Veronica Roth's novel "Divergent," through the lens of Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory. The study focuses on two primary research questions: (1) What categories of anxiety does Beatrice Prior experience in the "Divergent" novel? (2) How does Beatrice Prior use defense mechanisms to cope with her anxiety in the "Divergent" novel? Freud's theory of anxiety categorizes it into three types: neurotic, moral, and realistic anxiety. This study identifies and analyzes instances of these anxiety categories in Beatrice Prior's character. The analysis reveals that Beatrice encounters moral anxiety stemming from her conscience and societal norms, and realistic anxiety in response to external dangers and threats. Furthermore, the thesis explores the various defense mechanisms employed by Beatrice to manage her anxiety. Defense mechanisms are unconscious strategies used to protect the ego from anxiety-provoking thoughts and feelings. Beatrice's use of Defense mechanisms such as repression, reaction formation, Displacement, sublimation, and regressions are examined in depth. The study demonstrates how these mechanisms help her navigate the challenges she faces in the dystopian world of "Divergent." By applying Freud's theoretical framework, this thesis provides a comprehensive understanding of Beatrice Prior's psychological struggles and coping strategies. The findings contribute to the broader field of literary psychoanalysis and offer insights into the intricate portrayal of anxiety and defense mechanisms in young adult fiction.

Keywords: Anxiety, Defense Mechanism, Divergent.

