

THE PORTRAYAL OF OEDIPUS COMPLEX BY ARTHUR FLECK IN

JOKER (2019)

A FINAL PROJECT

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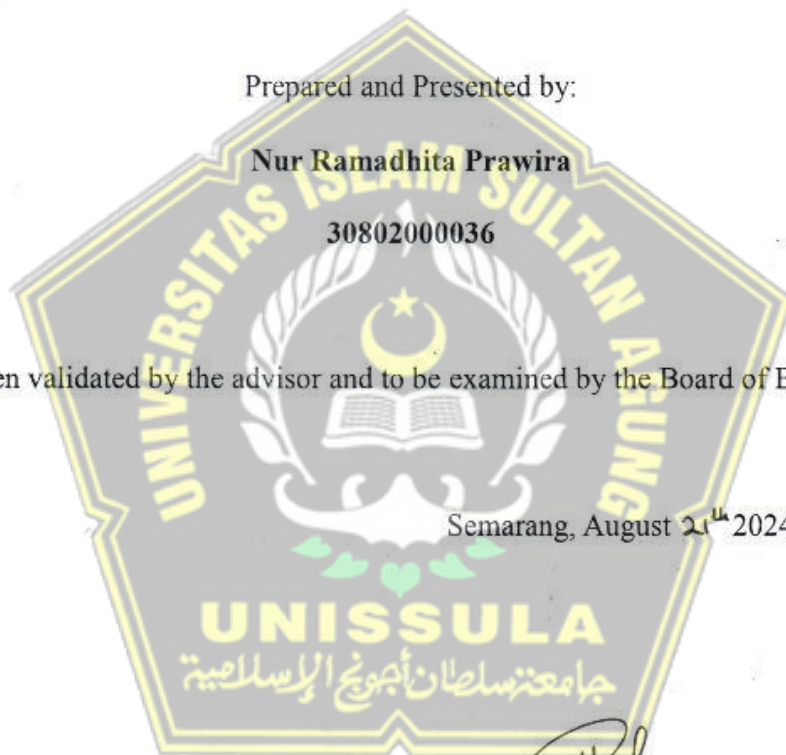
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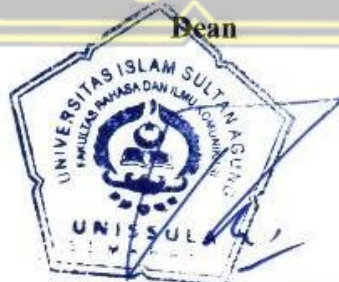
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STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY

Hereby, I honestly declare that the undergraduate thesis I wrote does not contain the work or part of the works of other people, except those which were cited in the quotations and the references, as a scientific paper should. If my statement is not valid in the future, I absolutely agree to accept an academic sanction in the form of revocation of my paper and my degree obtained from the paper.

Semarang, August 26th 2024



Nur Ramadhita Prawira

MOTTO

“So, surely with hardship comes ease. Surely with that hardship comes more ease.”

(Q.s Al-Insyirah: 5-6)

“You can’t be good at everything, but that doesn’t mean you can’t do anything.”

(Jeon Wonwoo)

“You may lose people again and again, but you have to go on living, no matter how devastating the blows may be.”

(Kamado Tanjiro)

DEDICATION

First of all, I dedicate my final project to myself who succeeded to survive every obstacle that have been given to me. I also dedicated my final project to my beloved mother, father, and my siblings who have given me all their support to complete my education. Furthermore, I dedicated this to academics out there who want to deepen the material discussed.

ABSTRACT

Prawira, Nur Ramadhita. 30802000036. The Portrayal of Oedipus Complex by Arthur Fleck in *Joker* (2019). Final Project for the English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Languages and Communication Science. Sultan Agung Islamic University. Advisor: Diyah Fitri Wulandari S.S., M. Hum.

The Oedipus complex is a behaviour where a boy has excessive attachment towards his mother. The Oedipus Complex was first introduced by Sigmund Freud in the theory of Psychoanalysis: Psychosexual Development. This study uses *Joker* (2019) movie as the object of the study. This study aims to show the symptoms of the Oedipus complex in Arthur Fleck, and to analyze Arthur Fleck's Oedipus complex in *Joker* (2019).

This study used a qualitative descriptive method. The primary data were obtained from *Joker* (2019), then secondary data were obtained from books, e-journals and articles related to the Oedipus complex. Several steps were taken to obtain data, they were reading movie scripts, identifying data, classifying data, and reducing data. This study used descriptive techniques to analyze the data that has been collected.

The results of this study showed that there were four symptoms of the Oedipus complex experienced by Arthur Fleck. The symptoms of Oedipus complex in Arthur were fixation, hostility, jealousy, and over attachment. Then, the portrayal of the Oedipus complex seen from Arthur's behaviour in looking for a replacement for his mother in a woman who looks similar to his mother, feelings of threat and displeasure towards someone he identifies as a father figure or a man related to his mother, as well as his obedient attitude towards his mother as a form of superego suppression of a boy's feelings for his mother.

Keywords: *Oedipus Complex, Symptoms of Oedipus Complex, Sigmund Freud, Arthur Fleck, Joker (2019).*

INTISARI

Prawira, Nur Ramadhita. 30802000036. The Portrayal of Oedipus Complex by Arthur Fleck in *Joker* (2019). Final Project for the English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Languages and Communication Science. Sultan Agung Islamic University. Advisor: Diyah Fitri Wulandari S.S., M. Hum.

Kompleks Oedipus merupakan suatu perilaku dimana seorang anak laki-laki memiliki keterikatan yang berlebihan terhadap ibunya. Kompleks Oedipus pertama kali diperkenalkan oleh Sigmund Freud dalam teori Psikoanalisis: Perkembangan Psikoseksual. Penelitian ini menggunakan film *Joker* (2019) sebagai objek penelitian. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menunjukkan gejala-gejala Kompleks Oedipus pada Arthur Fleck, dan menganalisis penggambaran Kompleks Oedipus karya Arthur Fleck dalam Film *Joker* (2019).

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data primer diperoleh dari film *Joker* (2019), kemudian data sekunder diperoleh dari buku, e-journal dan artikel terkait Kompleks Oedipus. Beberapa langkah dilakukan untuk memperoleh data, membaca naskah film, mengidentifikasi data, mengklasifikasikan data, dan mereduksi data. Penelitian ini menggunakan teknik deskriptif untuk menganalisis data-data yang telah dikumpulkan.

Hasil dari penelitian ini ditemukan empat gejala Kompleks Oedipus yang dialami Arthur Fleck. Gejala Kompleks Oedipus pada Arthur adalah fiksasi, permusuhan, kecemburuan, dan keterikatan yang berlebihan. Kemudian gambaran Kompleks Oedipus dilihat dari tingkah laku Arthur dalam mencari pengganti ibunya pada wanita yang mirip ibunya, perasaan terancam dan tidak senang terhadap seseorang yang ia identifikasi sebagai figur ayah atau laki-laki yang berkerabat dengan ibunya, serta sikap patuhnya terhadap ibunya sebagai bentuk superego menekan perasaan seorang anak laki-laki terhadap ibunya.

Keywords: *Kompleks Oedipus, Gejala Kompleks Oedipus, Sigmund Freud, Arthur Fleck, Joker (2019).*

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I realize that in the process of writing this final project, I received motivation, support, prayers, guidance, and encouragement from many parties. Therefore, I would like to thank everyone who always gives me motivation, support, prayers, guidance, and encouragement.

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In my deepest heart, I realize this final project is imperfect and still need any criticism and suggestions. However, I hope this final project could still provide enlightenment to the readers.

Semarang, August 28th 2024



Nur Ramadhita Prawira



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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Chapter one consists background of the study, problem formulation, limitation the study, objective of the study, significant of the study, and organization the study

A. Background of The Study

Literature is an imaginative written work created to describe a situation and expression by relying on aesthetic elements in it. In history, literature is often used to express culture and expression of human life and society (Milner, 1). Literature is used as a tool to represent various aspects of life, such as history, culture, philosophy, and other aspects using imaginative thinking in the form of fiction. Imaginative thinking is used as a medium for expressing ideas which will later become literary works such as poetry, prose, short stories, novels and other imaginative thoughts.

The content of a literary work is increasingly developing and is not just a description of a cultural history. Literature has become a tool in representing other aspects of human life, one aspect that is often discussed in literary works is how human social relationships with other humans have an impact on each individual. Literature is closely related to human social relations and one of the human social relations that often appears in literary works is psychology. Psychology is a science

that studies the mind, subconscious world and human behavior (Henriques, 181). Human social relationship related with human behaviour. Human behavior is formed not only from themselves, but also from human interactions and relationships with other individuals. Psychoanalysis is a science introduced by Sigmund Freud. Psychoanalysis is a new view of the central human subconscious (Freud, 321). However, it should be noted that psychoanalysis has three meanings used to define psychoanalysis in certain contexts. Psychoanalysis can be interpreted as a method for treating psychological problems that are not accessible by human technology, psychoanalysis can also be interpreted as a technique for treating neurosis disorders, and psychoanalysis can also be interpreted as a broad psychological science that contains the development of human neurosis and psychology, human behavior, relationships. Between one human being and another human being which influences human psychological development (Freud, 322). Psychoanalysis discusses many things in it, one of the discussion of the psychoanalysis is psychosexual development.

Psychosexual is actually discussing the problem of personality growth and development in line with the growth and development of the body, in which the factor of sexuality plays a key role. Therefore, Freud's theory is not far from that term. Freud believed that psychosexual energy, or libido, was described as the driving force

behind behavior (Freud, 172-179). If the psychosexual stages are completed successfully, the result is a healthy personality. Freud divided psychosexual development into five stages, namely the oral phase, the anal phase, the phallic phase, the latent phase, and the genital phase (William, et al., 62-63). Humans experience biological and libidio changes that affect their psychosexual development in these five stages, which causes, if there is one phase that humans cannot carry out perfectly, it will have an impact on humans, especially on their personality and the way they behave. For example, when a person is in the phallic phase, children aged three to five years. Children have just discovered their gender in this phase, and this is where the role of parents as a child's companion so that they understand themselves and their own desires. Daughters will usually feel jealousy when they see a dominant father figure as a male in their house. Meanwhile, boys will usually make their fathers rivals and also want to get rid of their fathers who are considered stronger than them because of their possessiveness and obsession with their own mothers. in girls this case is called Penis Envy, while in boys this case is known as the Oedipus complex (Simon et al., 62)

Oedipus Complex is the condition of boy's attraction and attachment to his own mother, both emotionally and sexually. This condition is formed from Castration Anxiety, where boys are obsessed and possessed with their mother and want to get rid of their father, but

they are aware of and have fear of a father figure who is considered stronger who can punish them for this desire (Rycroft, 118). If parents, especially fathers, accompany their child's development and fulfill the father's role for their child, then the child can deal with their father and have a strong bond. They will learn about the role of men in society and respect both genders, women and men. However, if the boy's father is absent. During this phase, they will grow into people who have an Oedipus complex where they are still dependent on and obsessed with their mother, seeing other women's figures have to be their mother's fixation, not even reluctant to act aggressively towards women.

Oedipus complex is a personality disorder that is rarely heard of, but in fact, Oedipus complex is a personality disorder that is experienced by many people in society and from various walks of life. For example, the case of a 26-year-old man who dated a 75-year-old grandmother before finally killing her is suspected of having the Oedipus complex. In the realm of psychoanalysis, the Oedipus complex is often included in literary works, but is rarely discussed because the Oedipus complex is usually inserted implicitly. One of the literary works that implicitly inserts the Oedipus complex is *Joker* by Todd Philips (2019).

This study uses the *Joker (2019)* as an object. *Joker* is movie that tells the story of a party clown named Arthur Fleck. Arthur Fleck as the main character in this movie, struggled with severe depression and

several other mental health issues in the midst of poverty. Arthur Fleck also had problems with his nervous condition which caused him to be unable to control his laughter. However, amidst these limitations, Arthur finds a kind of optimism in performing for other people and trying to make people laugh. Arthur has dreams of becoming a comedian. Gotham is struggling with crime, unemployment, and poverty in this era. Arthur is one of the people who is trying to survive amidst the chaos of Gotham. Arthur sees a social worker for his medication, as well as his ongoing mental health issues. Arthur lives with his sick mother, Penny, Arthur is a filial child towards his mother, he has an emotional attachment to his mother. Midway through the film, it is revealed that Penny used to work for Thomas Wayne and is obsessed with the millionaire and has now been writing letters to him to try to improve their living situation. Arthur, who saw this condition, objected and found out about the truth of Penny's relationship with Thomas Wayne.

Much research has been carried out on the Oedipus complex, as has research on the film *Joker* (2019). One of the previous studies used as a reference in researching the Oedipus Complex in Arthur Fleck is Hajar Fatima's thesis from Syarif Hidayatullah University entitled "Oedipus Complex in 'Tony Parson' Man and Boy." In the previous study, the main topic discussed was the relationship between the id, ego, and superego in the relationship between the main actors in the movie

Man and Boy. This study also focuses on examining the relationship between the main actors and other actors. However, different from previous studies, this study focus on the symptoms of the Oedipus complex in the main character of the film *Joker* and the depiction of the Oedipus complex which is manifested in 3 attitudes.

The Oedipus Complex issue portrayed by Arthur Fleck in *Joker* (2019). The interactions between Arthur Fleck and his mother Penny Fleck, as well as some of his behaviour in the *Joker* (2019), indicate that Arthur has the Oedipus Complex issue. Arthur does have many problem with himself, such as pseudobulbar effect, several mental disorders, and personality disorder. One of the personality disorders that will be discussed in this study is Arthur Fleck's Oedipus Complex. The reason why this research focuses on Arthur Fleck's Oedipus complex is to show that issues are rarely discussed and rarely known to the public. Literature packages this issue to be more interesting and easily understood by ordinary people. The link between psychology and literature is that literature takes humans as its object, while psychology is the study of human psychology and personality. Therefore, literature and psychology have an attachment to each other because literature describes the psychological condition and personality of humans through literary works. Moreover, Arthur Fleck's Oedipus complex in the *Joker* (2019) describes the condition of some people in the real world who also have a case of Oedipus Complex.

B. Problem Formulation

Based on the background of the study, the problem formulations that presented are:

1. What are the symptoms of the Oedipus complex that are portrayed in Arthur Fleck in *Joker* (2019)?
2. How is Oedipus Complex manifested in the character Arthur Fleck in the *Joker* (2019)?

C. Limitation of The Study

The study only focuses on the symptoms of oedipus complex in *Joker* (2019) main character, Arthur Fleck, and the portrayal of the Oedipus complex in Arthur Fleck as the main character in *Joker* (2019).

D. Objective of The Study

Based on the problem formulation, the objective of the character in this study as follows:

1. To show the portrayal of Oedipus Complex' symptoms in Arthur Fleck in *Joker* (2019)
2. To analyze manifest of Oedipus Complex in character Arthur Fleck in the *Joker* (2019)

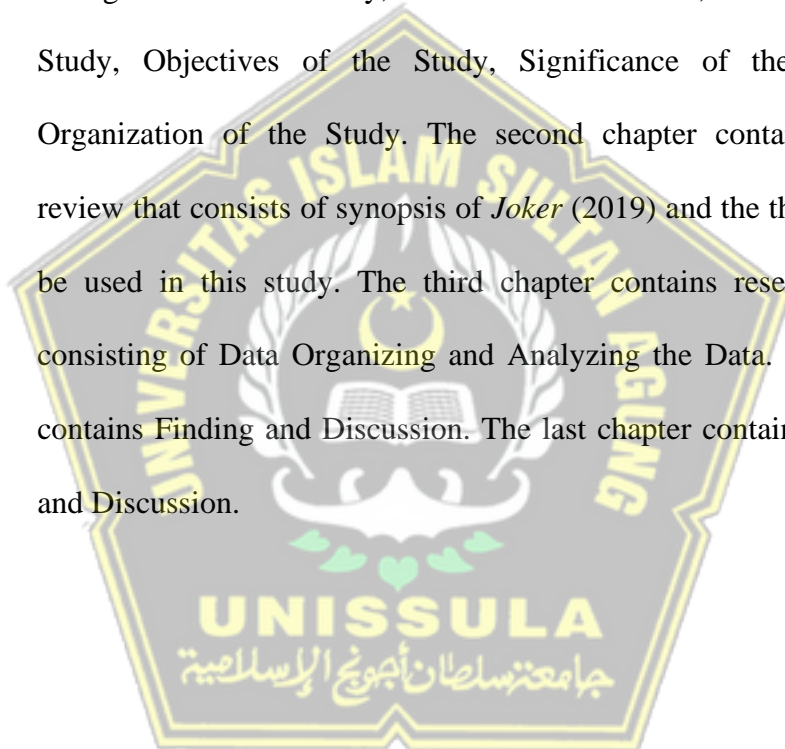
E. Significance of The Study

This study is expected to be useful for helping students regarding the application of Oedipus Complex in *Joker* (2019). This study also

expected to be able to help further research that is still related to the same topic or research that is similar.

F. **Organization of The Study**

In this study, there are chapters that discuss different things. The first chapter is an introduction consisting of six points, namely Background of the Study, Problem Formulations, Limitations of the Study, Objectives of the Study, Significance of the Study, and Organization of the Study. The second chapter contains a literary review that consists of synopsis of *Joker* (2019) and the theory that will be used in this study. The third chapter contains research methods consisting of Data Organizing and Analyzing the Data. Chapter four contains Finding and Discussion. The last chapter contains Conclusion and Discussion.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter contains synopsis of the *Joker* (2019) movie by Todd Philips and theory of Oedipus Complex by Sigmund Freud.

A. Synopsis

Joker is a film directed by Todd Philips in 2019. This film, which is set in 1981, tells the story of a 40 year old man named Arthur Fleck, he works as a clown in the city of Gotham which is famous for the chaos. Arthur Fleck as the main character of this film, struggles with severe depression and several other mental health problems amidst poverty. Arthur Fleck also had problems with his nervousness which caused him to be unable to control his laughter. However, amidst these limitations, Arthur found a kind of optimism in appearing in front of other people and trying to make people laugh. Arthur has a dream of becoming a comedian. Gotham is struggling with crime, unemployment, and poverty in this era. Arthur is one of the people trying to survive amidst the chaos of Gotham. To manage his illness, he regularly sees a social worker for her medication, as well as his ongoing mental health issues. Throughout his life, Arthur lived with his sick mother, Penny. During his life with Penny, Arthur was a filial son towards his mother and he had an emotional attachment to his mother.

Arthur painstakingly takes care of his mother who is old and sick. He also often listens to his mother's words, so he is often influenced by his mother's words.

At the beginning of the film, Arthur is bullied by thugs in Gotham City. They steal and destroy the billboard that Arthur is holding, so he has to chase them and is beaten by the thugs. This incident reached his co-worker Randall. Randall, who shows sympathy for Arthur, lends him a gun on the grounds of Arthur's protection. Arthur, who put his trust in Randall, then accepted it without knowing the risks he would face. Arthur returns to his apartment and he meets a woman who lives only with her daughter in the elevator. Suddenly the elevator made a noise and the woman saw Arthur and said that the apartment was very bad. Her daughter, Gigi, mumbled and followed her mother's words without stopping, then the woman looked at Arthur and imitated a gun. This made Arthur surprised and felt attracted to him. Arthur and the woman lived on the same floor, when they got out of the elevator, Arthur imitated a gun to his head at the woman, just like the woman. The woman smiled and went in the opposite direction to Arthur.

The next day, Arthur stalked the woman, from when she took her child to kindergarten until she went to the bank. The woman regained consciousness and came to Arthur's Apartment. She introduces herself as Sophie. They talk and show interest in each other.

One day, Arthur is assigned to be an entertaining clown in a special hospital for children with cancer. During a visit to a children's hospital, Arthur's gun falls out of his pocket, and he got fired from his job because of that incident. Arthur then went to social service programs to get his medication, but found that social service programs are closed, leaving him with no way get medication. On his way home by subway, Arthur was bullied by three young Wall Street businessmen because of his laugh, then he shot them dead with a gun he had borrowed. Arthur doesn't realize the murder will start a protest movement against the city's rich people wearing clown masks. A few days earlier, Thomas Wayne ran for mayor because he was worried about the never-ending chaos in the city.

Midway through the film, Sophie and Arthur seem to be getting closer. Arthur invites Sophie to attend Arthur's solo comedy show planned by Murray. Arthur tells about his dreams, his life, and his close relationship with his mother. However, by the middle of the show, the comedy was going very badly. Arthur laughed uncontrollably and had difficulty getting his joke through to completion. Popular talk show host Murray Franklin broadcast the video live as a mockery. On the other hand, after the event went badly, Arthur discovered a fact that he didn't like. Arthur hated Thomas Wayne, because his mother often raved about the millionaire's kindness and generosity and it is revealed that Penny used to work for Thomas Wayne. She is obsessed with the

millionaire and has now written to him to try to improve their living situation. Arthur, who saw this condition, objected and found out the truth about Penny's relationship with Thomas Wayne. Arthur steals a letter his mother wrote to Thomas Wayne who is one of the most prominent people in the city and discovers he is Wayne's illegitimate son. He cursed at his mother for keeping this a secret from him and not long after that, Penny fell ill and was hospitalized. Arthur is also harassed by two detectives who suspect his involvement in the subway shooting, but he denies it.

The situation in the city became increasingly chaotic with protesters spilling out everywhere. When the protesters start fighting with security officers, Arthur sneaks into a building where a special event for famous figures is being held. Arthur meets Thomas Wayne and questions his status with Thomas. Thomas argues with Arthur and says that Penny is crazy and not even Arthur's real mother, while slapping Arthur afterwards. Arthur visits Arkham Hospital to find out the truth of what Thomas said. Arthur steals Penny's case file and discovers that she was indeed adopted after being abandoned as a baby. He also learns that Penny was abusive to him when he was a child, including serious head trauma that resulted in his pathological laughter. Arthur, who feels betrayed by people he considers close, such as his mother, Randall and Murray, whom he considers a brother and father figure, then goes on a rampage and creates chaos. He returned to the hospital and immediately

covered his mother's head with a pillow until she died from running out of air. After that, he came to Sophie, the woman he considered his lover. Sophie is shocked by his presence and asks him to leave. Arthur then realizes that his experience with Sophie was just an illusion.

An employee from the Murray Franklin show called and asked Arthur to appear on the show. Arthur agrees and plans to commit suicide on the show. As he preened and put on his clothes, two of his ex-co-workers, Randall and Gary came to visit him, wanting to offer their condolences for Penny's death. Arthur, who was holding small scissors, attacked Randall by stabbing him in the neck and eyes with the scissors, then hit his head repeatedly until he died immediately. However, Arthur let Gary live because Arthur still remembered his friend's kindness in the past. On his way to the studio, he is chased by two detectives onto a train full of clown protesters. One of the detectives accidentally shoots a protester dead, so the other protesters start to beat the two detectives until they are critical, and Arthur runs away from the chaos.

Before the show started, Arthur asked Murray to introduce him as the Joker, a joke Murray had made some time ago about him. The event went smoothly as usual, but Arthur continued to admit to the murder on the subway and questioned the hypocrisy of society which praised the three young men while demeaning them, saying that society preferred to step on their bodies on the highway instead of burying them properly. Murray tried to calm the atmosphere, but Arthur ignored him.

Arthur immediately shot Murray dead right in the head right then and there, so many spectators ran away in fear and he was arrested by the police because of it. On his way to the police station, Arthur sees Gotham being thrown into chaos by protesters. One of the protesters chased the Wayne family into an alley and shot Thomas and Martha dead, so that Bruce could only stare at the situation while crying over the departure of his parents. The car Arthur was traveling in was hit by an ambulance driven by a number of protesters, resulting in the deaths of the two policemen in the car, while Arthur survived with a number of injuries to his body. They immediately rescued Arthur right then and there and laid him in a car. Arthur wakes up and wakes up, so the protesters celebrate with great fanfare, which Arthur dances in response to.

A few moments later, Arthur is questioned by a social worker at Arkham Hospital and bursts out laughing. When asked, Arthur simply said that they wouldn't understand. Arthur left the place, leaving a bloody trail from his shoe.

B. Review of Literature

B.1. Psychosexual Development

Psychoanalysis concern on “shows the importance of a child's early personal experiences in the development of his personality, apart from that it also shows that many of a child's social experiences and social relationships become a model for his personality later in life.” (Liebert.,

et al, 54). The environment shapes an individual's personality and mental condition from the time they are born, the environment can even shape traumatic affect in children from when they are babies until adulthood. The most influential environment in the development of human personality is family. Therefore, family dysfunction can disrupt a child's mental and personality development and can be the biggest reason a child has traumatic affect. For example, the absence of a father figure or the separation of a child from his mother since infancy. The separation between a child and his mother can be “representation in the later life of loss, attachment, and abandonment.” (Liebert et al, 55).

Furthermore, Freud explained that in development, humans will go through several stages in their lives. According to Freud, one of the stages of development is the developmental phases related to the erogenous zones in the human body, starting from the mouth, anal and genitals (Freud, 330). This “stage of development are called psychosexual.” (Liebert et al, 55). Psychosexual development has several stages, which consists of Oral phase, Anal phase, Phallic Phase, Genital Phase. Generally, Freud explains that each stage has an area in the human body as an object of desire which is dominant at the time. Initially, humans aged from babies to toddlers were still figuring out physiological functions, such as eating and defecating or urinating. After going through this phase, humans reach the final point of development, namely the genital phase.

Freud explained that when a person succeeds in dealing with a certain conflict in a stage, he or she can pass through the subsequent stages. However, sometimes a person have difficulty of resolving problems that occur at a stages, this happens for several and may occurs due to frustration or overindulgence. There are two basic reasons in psychosexual development for humans to have difficulty resolving problems in a stage and pass one stage and going on to the next stage. The two basic reasons are either human needs that are relevant to the psychosexual stage have not been met (frustration), or his needs have been satisfied so well that he is reluctant to leave that stage (overindulgence) (Liebert et al, 55-56).

As a result of these two reasons, both frustration and overindulgence create fixation. “Freud stated that people can become fixated on any stage of psychosexual development. This can happen if a child receives too little or too much satisfaction at a certain stage.” (Papalia et al, 158). The magnitude of libido fixation depends on the severity of the conflict.

B.1.1. Oral Phase

The first phase that humans will experience in development is the oral phase. This phase starts from when people are born until they are 12 or 18 months old. In the early stages of human life, namely babies, the center of pleasure and stimulation for children is their oral cavity (mouth). Children will usually be curious about something and find out

by putting whatever makes them curious into their mouths. Usually children find satisfaction from sucking their mother's nipples (breastfeeding), milk bottles, fingers, and other objects that can be put in their mouths (Papalia et al, 158). Therefore, there are special tools to stimulate baby stimuli, for example a baby pacifier. They grasp or form attachment to these source of satisfaction. During this stage, children only concern and focus on their own satisfaction, this stage also known as “stage of primary narcissism.” According to Freud, this stage is completely controlled by the id, because it operates based on the individual's personal pleasure (Papalia et al, 158)

The oral stage, likewise the next three stages, can be resulting in fixation, this is because there is a possibility that children get more or less satisfaction from their pleasure needs. Usually, this kind of fixation will have consequences for their future behavior. If a child gets little satisfaction during the teething period, this stage will become the source of pain (Drapella, 17). Children who do not complete this stage or do not get satisfaction from the needs to suck or swallow, will cause them to seek this kind of satisfaction later in their life. They usually become aggressive and destructive, one of the characteristics is that they have a habit of biting their own nails, especially when they feel afraid, anxious, or threatened. On the other hand, if they get too much satisfaction at this stage, later on they are likely to become compulsive eaters or smokers (Papalia, 158). Furthermore, it explained that, “individuals who are

fixated at the oral stage somehow being an optimistic of the view the world, to develop their dependent development in adulthood, unusually friendly and generous, to expect the world, in turn, to mother them.” (Liebert et al, 57). The oral stage can bring someone into a stable person, where they satisfy their need for the pleasure of sucking or swallowing something. They may go to the next stage when this stage is well completed.

Therefore, the consequences of the oral phase in children can lead them to anxiety or aggressive behavior if they do not complete this phase by getting satisfaction during the oral phase. Usually they tend to bite things, such as nails or pencils. Moreover, they can behave destructively. However, when children complete the oral stage well, this will develop positive behavior in children such as being friendly and generous in later life.

B.1.2. Anal Phase

The second phase after oral is the anal phase. This phase usually starts from around 12-18 months until children are 3 years old. At this stage, children will move on, those who initially sought oral satisfaction to anal. “Pleasure is obtained first from expelling feces and later from retaining them.” (Liebert et al, 58). During this phase, the way parents deal with this is by teaching their children about toilet training. This method is considered to have a good influence on the child's personality development in the future.

At this stage, fixation is related to the child's behavior society in later life, especially their self-control. "If it's children able to pass toilet training with ease, they "...will develop the foundation for successful self-control. Someone who takes excessive advantage of that hostility later outbursts would be labeled aggressive anal character." (Papalia et al, 159)

However, on the other hand, if children feel frustrated during their toilet training period, they "...may try to counterattack by defecating at certain times, which is very troublesome..." for their parents (Papalia et al, 159). Children who experience anal stages with frustration tend to have an anal retention character with the characteristics of being stingy, hoarding and loud.

Therefore, it can be concluded that children who do not get satisfaction during the anal phase will likely grow up to be stingy, hoarding and violent. On the other hand, if a child gets too much satisfaction during this phase, it is likely that they will become aggressive. Meanwhile, if a child is able to complete the anal phase well, they will have good self-control when they grow into adults.

B.1.3. Phallic Phase

After going through the anal phase, children will go through the phallic phase at the age of four to six years. "Conflict the phallic stage is the final and most important stage that a young child must overcome."

(Liebert et al, 58). Here, “the excitement and tension come into deep focus genitals. (Pervin et al, 77).” Children are starting to find out about stimulation towards the genital area which the child then feels satisfied at this stage. According to Freud, “...possession of the phallus in boys and its absence in girls is a major worry for children.” (Miller, 134).

However, problems will begin to arise when children begin to show their sexual desires to their parents of the opposite sex. At the men, "This situation is often known as the Oedipus complex (In Greek mythology, Oedipus killed his father and married her mother)..." "Meanwhile, in girls, this situation is known as Electra Complex." (Miller, 134-135)

Children tend to regard parents who have the same sex as their rivals and have strong bonds with parents who have different sexes in this phase. Like girls who see their mothers as rivals for their father's attention are called Electra complexes. Apart from that, this phase also affects the mindset of girls who are not close to their parents, especially their fathers because they feel their fathers have a higher position, so they have jealousy of the male gender which is often called penis envy. Whereas boys who have a tendency to think of fathers as rivals for their mother's attention. This causes them to likely grow up with an Oedipus complex.

According to Freud's theory, the symptoms of the Oedipus complex in children are not always the same. Common symptoms may involve a child expressing certain behaviors towards a parent of the opposite sex, such as:

1. Fixation

Fixation is the cessation of the development process of a part or human personality which causes the development to be imperfect and not in line with other parts of the person, for example fixation on sexual development. In psychoanalytic theory, the presence of an early stage of psychosexual development or maladaptive attachment to objects or means of early psychosexual gratification, such as anal or oral penetration. This fixation limits a person's ability to negotiate tasks at later psychological stages.

Oedipus complex is a fixation form of the phallic phase. One of the fixations that is formed is when they are attracted to women who look familiar, like their mother. This is due to the cessation or disruption of sexual development during the phallic phase so that they are attracted to their mother, but normally they realize that being attracted to their own mother is a mistake so they take it out on other women (Freud, 1917). Another fixation in this phase, boys usually identify themselves the same as their father, and have an erotic attraction to their mother,"... indirectly boys get

the satisfaction of sexual urges towards the mother, and at the same time feelings to their mother feels dangerous, they cover it up by being obedient children to their mother.” (Freud, 68-70)

2. Hostility

Hostility is often defined as an attitude of hostility or dislike, when someone is unfriendly or shows that they do not like something or someone. People who have these feelings will show overt expressions of intense hostility in actions, feelings, or attitudes.

Boys in the phallic phase usually identify their fathers or male gentlemen who are close to their mothers as rivals. They feel threatened in their position over their mother, and one of the factors is jealousy of their father figure. This causes boys to become sensitive when referring to weaknesses or differences in power between them and their fathers or male figures who are similar to their fathers (Storr, 37).

3. Jealousy

In the case of psychosexual development, jealousy in the phallic phase can have an impact on children, both girls and boys. In girls, they usually feel that their father is stronger than their

mother and feel this dominance comes from the penis that men have, they end up feeling jealous of the opposite sex because they have the same sex as their father, this is known as penis envy. Meanwhile, sons feel they have similarities with their fathers, but cannot match the dominance and power that their fathers have, especially dominance over their mothers, which makes their mothers closer to their fathers, "...jealousy causes them to resent and even unconsciously wish the death of their father" (Ahmed, 11). This creates the effect of jealousy and rival views towards their own father, but because there is a difference in power, these feelings will be repressed by the ego in the form of castration of anxiety (Honig, 71-73).

4. Over-attachment

Attachment theory is a psychological and evolutionary theory that discusses relationships between humans (Gellman., et al, 149). The most important principle of attachment theory is that young children need to develop their social relationships, with parents or at least one caregiver close to them, for their survival, as well as for the healthy development of social and emotional functioning (Cassidy., et al, 3-5).

Over-attachment is a condition when someone has excessive attachment to other people. In the case of the Oedipus

complex, this occurs between the mother and her son. The attachment between mother and child has been formed since they were babies, and develops into excessive attraction when the mother expresses deep sorrow when separated from her child. This fear of separation makes mothers form a bond with their children. However, this attachment becomes excessive if there is no father figure during their development (Papalia, 159)

B.1.4. Genital Phase

The final phase is the genital phase. this phase usually begins at the beginning of puberty "...when young adolescents begin to mature sexually and continue into adulthood until the onset of senility, at which time the individual tends to experience decline pregenital behavior..." (Liebert et al, 62). In this phase humans begin and have understood their conditions and sexual development. This phase begins with puberty experienced by adolescents and becomes the last phase on stage of Psychosexual Development. Before the genital phase, there is a phase called the latency phase, namely the phase where humans at this stage will experience a decrease in libido (Freud, 330). The latency phase takes place after the phallic phase is complete, children tend to focus on social, academic development or focus on their social pleasures such as developing hobbies. After this phase, the libido, which was previously "put to sleep" in the child's subconscious,

will wake up again during puberty and the child experiences the genital phase. At this time the genitals have begun to play a role in human development. One example is menstruation in girls and wet dreams in boys. Humans tend to focus on, "adult sexuality, with biological purpose of reproduction. Love becomes more altruistic, with less concern for one's own pleasure," at this stage (Miller, 173). "The greater the success a person has in reaching the genital stage without a large amount of libido fixed in the pregenital stage, that is the greater his capacity to lead a normal life, free from neurosis, and to enjoy true heterosexual relationships." (Liebert et al, 62)

However, a person sometimes goes through psychosexual development and ultimately causes one's psychosexual development to be incomplete. This can cause problems for the person in his adult life.

B.2. Oedipus Complex

Oedipus Complex is a problem that occurs in boys who do not complete their phallic phase properly. The Oedipus Complex itself was introduced by Sigmund Freud in the theory of Psychoanalysis: Psychosexual Development, where at this stage a boy has excessive attraction and attachment to his mother. In the phallic stage, a boy may be sexually attracted to his mother and wants to place his mother as the object of his sexual desires if the parental figure lacks a role, especially the father's lack of role. On

development in the phallic stage, boys tend to be attached to their mothers and do not want to share their mothers' love with their fathers. Boys will feel that their mother is completely theirs. In fact, sometimes they think their father is a rival for their mother's affection.

However, they will consciously fear their father even though they have the same object of desire. He wants to possess his mother completely, but he also fears his father's castration (Taylor, 39). According to Freud, a boy's superego is greater than his id, the result is that the superego plays a role by diverting these feelings and them with adherence to morality, shame or morality, shame or disgust. and ultimately make them more obedient to their parents, especially parents who have a big role in their lives (Honig, 70-77). Moreover, the boy also realized that his father was much stronger than him, later on imagining his father would castrate him for trying to take what was his father's (castration anxiety). His anxiety about his father's castration then pushed him to suppress his desires.

The boy then begins to attract his mother's attention by identifying with his father and trying to emulate what his father does or what his father has. The identification aims to prove that he can do whatever his father did. The boy even can surpass his father to fulfil his id's demands (Honig, 73). As long as he tried to

emulate what his father, he was aimed at the praise his mother gave to him.

Another consequence of the Oedipus Complex is a boy began "...paying attention to everything related to the authentication as a gentleman, places his father as a rival, feel threatened by a person he identify as his father, and is very sensitive to being slighted statements about his size, weakness, incompetence, and lack of experience." (Storr, 37). Not only does that happen to boys with Oedipus Complex, in the future boys who are suspected of having Oedipus complex will try to look for women who have it. similarities with the mother, such as face, habits, behavior, especially in personality and condition.

When children go through the phallic phase, it is common to have Oedipus complex symptoms. If a boy is successful in this phase, he can identify his father's characteristics in a positive way, so he can satisfy this phase by getting praise from his mother for being similar to his father. However, if a boy is unable to fulfill his desires and goes through the phallic phase, he will continue to develop symptoms of the Oedipus complex until he finds another woman who is similar to his mother as a substitute for the object of his desire.

Furthermore, it can be concluded regarding the orientation of Oedipus complex research as follows:

1. If a man seeks to be recognized as his father, “strives to be like him and internalizes his beliefs, values, interests, and attitudes.” (Miller, 134).
2. If a man “notices that every thing concerns himself authenticating as a gentleman.”
3. If a man “puts his father as a rival.” (Storr, 37)
4. If a man gets “sensitive because of disparagement remarks about his size, weakness, incompetence, and lack of experience.” (Storr, 37)
5. If a man “feels threatened by another person he identifies as having something in common with his father or someone his mother loves.” (Freud, 322)
6. If a man always tries to find a woman who is similar with his mother.

An example of someone who may have an Oedipus complex is a boy who lacks or even loses the role of a father in his phallic phase, which causes him to have excessive attachment to his mother. However, he consciously thought that lust for his mother

was not allowed, so he took it out on another woman who he thought had something in common with his mother.



CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This Chapter contains of three part, which are: Type of Reasearch, Data Organizing, Analyzing Data. Type of research will explains about the type of search that will be used in this study. Data organizing contains two parts, they are data collecting and type of data. The data collecting methods consists of steps in collecting data data, which is watching the movie, identifying the data, classifying the data, reducing the data. The last one is analyzing the data, this part explains about the technique that will be use to analyze data in this study.

A. Type of Research

This study uses qualitative research method. A qualitative study is one in which the method is to create words as the data for analysis. The goals of qualitative research are to get a better knowledge of certain areas of social life. According to Miles and Huberman (255-256) —qualitative data is usually in the form of words rather than numbers. The qualitative data provide well-founded, detailed descriptions and explanations of processes in the recognizable context of words, phrases, utterances, and conversations. As a result, qualitative data deals with the meaning of the data from its form through explanation and description.

B. Data Organizing

There is a data gathering procedure in the data collection technique that will be analyzed using information and numerous approaches linked to study. In order to acquire data for this study, various steps are taken. The steps are as follows:

B.1.1 Watching the Movie

The movie *Joker* (2019) is being watched numerous times to have a better comprehension of the movie and to obtain the aspects relevant to the research. According to the theme of this study, the data employed in this study was in the form of dialogue and monologue.

B.1.2 Reading the Script

After watching the movie for several times, the next is reading the movie script of *Joker*. For analyzing this study, the data used in the form of conversation, sentences, descriptions, narratives, and prologues.

B.1.3 Identifying the Data

After seeing a movie a few times and reading the movie screenplay, the following stage is to identify certain data gathered from the movie and movie scripts. This stage seeks to identify certain aspects of the thing to be investigated. It is concerned with assigning codes, highlighting and emphasizing certain areas of items relating to the issue.

B.1.4 Classifying the Data

All selected data organized into an appendix table. The appendix will have columns for numbers, data, data form, minutes, type/answer issue formulation, references, and comments.

B.1.5 Reducing the data

All data identified reduced to smaller numbers because of the relevance of the data in answering the problem statement. Data will be discussed in chapter four as the findings of this study.

B.2. Types of the Data

Primary and secondary data are the two types of data. Primary data is frequently characterized as the main source, whereas secondary data is data that complement the primary data. The primary data may be gathered from the supplied sample, whilst the secondary data can be obtained from many references, such as a journal, research report, books, the internet, or the web.

1. Primary data as the main source was taken from the object itself, Joker (2019) movie script which is produced by Warner Bros Studios. Sentences, narratives, conversations, and descriptions are some of the types of data present in the film.
2. Secondary data is gathered from worldwide journals, papers, websites, essays, and books that are relevant to the study's topic. Secondary data may also be useful in determining information about a topic or idea relating to the investigation.

C. Analyzing the Data

The final final step of the study is analyzing the data. The data analyze uses descriptive techniques. Descriptive techniques are given by descriptions, statements, citations, or expressed through explanations. This step requires the data collected in the previous step. A full analysis is reported in Chapter IV, the results of the study.



CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses about the finding and analysis of Oedipus Complex in *Joker* (2019) main character's, Arthur Fleck. This chapter is separated into two sub-chapters: the symptoms of The Oedipus Complex that are shown in Arthur Fleck and Arthur Fleck's Oedipus Complex as portrayed in the *Joker* (2019).

A. The Symptoms of the Oedipus Complex That Are Shown in Arthur Fleck

The Oedipus Complex is a condition where boys feel excessive attachment to their mother, which is accompanied by feelings of jealousy and hatred towards their own father. In the *Joker* (2019), Arthur Fleck has characteristics that fulfill the description of the Oedipus complex. An explanation of the symptoms contained in Arthur Fleck is implicitly discussed below:

A.1. Fixation

One of the symptoms of the Oedipus complex is fixation. Fixation is the cessation of the development process of a part of a person's self or personality, resulting in its development being incomplete and not in line with other parts of the self (for example towards the development of sexual attachment, and so on). The fixation that forms in the Oedipus complex is boys usually identify themselves the same as their father, and have an erotic attraction to their mother,"...

indirectly boys get the satisfaction of sexual urges towards the mother, and at the same time feelings to their mother feels dangerous, they cover it up by being obedient children to their mother.” (Freud, 68-70). In the *Joker* (2019), the fixation that experience on Arthur can be seen in the dialogue below:

ARTHUR: “I’ve been using it as a journal, but also a joke diary. Funny thoughts or, or observations-- Did I tell you I’m pursuing a career in stand-up comedy?”

She's half-listening as she flips through his journal.

SOCIAL WORKER: “No. You didn't.”

ARTHUR: “I think I did.”

She doesn't respond, keeps flipping through his journal—

SOCIAL WORKER: “Oh yeah. Because of what your mother said,-- about your purpose. "To bring laughter and joy to the world," right?”

ARTHUR: “Right.”

ANGLE ON JOURNAL, pages and pages of notes, all in neat, angry-looking hand (00.19.05-00.20.26)

There are fixations that occur in boys, one of which is changing erotic feelings into obedience to their mother. In the *Joker* (2019), the fixation that forms in Arthur Fleck's character is his obedience to his

mother. The form of obedience seen in this scene is how Arthur uses his mother's words as motivation and reason for him to start a career in comedy. His mother always said that he should always be happy and bring happiness to the world, Arthur wants to be seen by his mother, and has the ambition to become a stand-up comedian to make this happen.

A.2. Hostility

Hostility is often defined as an attitude unfriendliness or dislike. People with these feelings openly express their hostility in their actions, emotions, and attitudes. Boys usually view men close to their mothers as rivals, including their own fathers.

One factor is jealousy towards father figures or men who are close to their mother. This causes boys to become sensitive when referring to weaknesses or differences in power between them and their fathers or male figures who are similar to their fathers (Storr, 37). In the *Joker* (2019), the hostility that experience on Arthur can be seen in the dialogue below:

PENNY: “Maybe the mailman's throwing them away.”

She tilts her head back and he rinses her hair with the water from the container...

ARTHUR “Mom, why are these letters so important to you? What do you think he's gonna do?”

PENNY “He's gonna help us.”

ARTHUR “Help us how?”

PENNY “Get us out of here, take me away from this place and these-- these people.”

ARTHUR “You worked for him over 30 years ago. What makes you think he would help us?”

Penny looks at him with conviction, water dripping down her face, into her eyes. She wipes it away with her hands—

PENNY “Because Thomas Wayne is a good man. If he knew how I was living, if he saw this place, it would make him sick. I can't explain it to you any better than that”

Arthur nods. Annoyed, but not worth the argument.

ARTHUR “I don't want you worrying about money. Everyone's been telling me they think my stand-up is ready for the big clubs. It's just a matter of time before I get a break.”

PENNY “Happy, what makes you think you could do that?”

ARTHUR “What do you mean?”

PENNY “I mean, don't you have to be funny to be a comedian?” (00.20.00-00.21.09)

Arthur, who was chatting with his mother, showed his dislike for Thomas Wayne, whom his mother always praised, he felt annoyed with him, because his mother always considered him as a saviour to her.

Arthur questions why his mother has so much hope for Thomas Wayne. Arthur also tells his mother that he will become a great comedian and does not need to worry about their situation in the hope that his mother will no longer rely on Thomas Wayne but on him. However, Penny actually questions Arthur's ability to be a comedian, because according to her Arthur is not a fun person.

A.3. Jealousy

In the case of psychosexual development, jealousy can have an impact on children, both girls and boys. In this case, one of symptoms of Oedipus complex is jealousy of boys towards his father or a man who related to their mother. Boys feel they have similarities with their fathers, but cannot match the dominance and power that their fathers have, especially dominance over their mothers, which makes their mothers closer to their fathers,

“...jealousy causes them to resent and even unconsciously wish the death of their father” (Ahmed, 11). This creates the effect of jealousy and rival views towards their own father, but because there is a difference in power, these feelings will be repressed by the ego in the form of castration of anxiety (Honig, 71-73).

In the *Joker* (2019), the jealousy that experience on Arthur can be seen in the dialogue below:

PENNY “All day long it's more bad news. That's all there is.”

ARTHUR “Maybe you shouldn't watch so much television.”

PENNY (ignoring) “He’s the only hope for Gotham. He'll make a great mayor. Everybody says so.”

ARTHUR (irritated) “Everybody who? Who do you talk to?”

PENNY “Well everybody on the news.”

ARTHUR “Stop it. He's not even gonna run. Why would Thomas Wayne want to be mayor? He can do more good as a businessman.”

PENNY “Because he cares about this city. And everyone in it-- that's why I can't believe he hasn't written me back.”

ARTHUR “He will. Now eat some dinner.”

He feeds her a bite of the food. (00.09.39-00.10.20)

Jealousy in the Oedipus complex leads to the child's jealousy of the father or figure the mother loves. How the mother admires or respects the man, and the child knows that he does not have the same powers.

In this scene, Arthur was feeding his mother who kept babbling about Thomas Wayne. Arthur gets annoyed because his mother keeps going on about how good Thomas Wayne is. Arthur tried to get his

mother to stop talking about Thomas Wayne, but he didn't dare argue further with his mother and ended up ignoring her and continuing to feed his mother.

A.4. Over-Attachment

Over-attachment is a condition when someone has excessive attachment to other people. In the case of the Oedipus complex, this occurs between the mother and her son. The attachment between mother and child has been formed since they were babies, and develops into excessive attraction when the mother expresses deep sorrow when separated from her child. This fear of separation makes mothers form a bond with their children. However, this attachment becomes excessive if there is no father figure during their development (Papalia, 159). In the *Joker* (2019), over-attachment that occurs on Arthur can be seen in the narrative below:

INT. MOM'S APARTMENT, BEDROOM – NIGHT FROM ABOVE, looking down on Arthur hunched over, lying on his side in his mother's bed, his left arm below frame-- hard to tell if he's in pain or beating off. **He reaches out his right arm to where his mother slept, hugging and breathing on his mother's pillow**, the TV's blue light flickering, 11:00 News turned up— (01.00.36-01.01.15)

In this scene, Arthur is seen looking for the figure of his mother, Penny, but his mother's absence makes him replace her with a pillow. The excessive attachment between mother and child shows deep sadness when they are separated from each other. In the *Joker* (2019), Arthur's excessive attachment to his mother is shown in the scene of Arthur sleeping in his mother's room. Arthur looks for his mother who usually sleeps next to him, but in that scene his mother is not in the room because she is in the hospital. To replace her mother's figure, she hugged the pillow, as if it were her mother.

B. Arthur Fleck's Oedipus Complex as Potrayed in the *Joker* (2019)

Oedipus Complex theory was first introduced by Sigmund Freud in 1899. The Oedipus Complex is a desire in the context of a romantic relationship with a parent of the opposite gender and feelings of dislike or even hostility towards the parent of the same gender. In the *Joker* (2019), Arthur has several attitudes that indicate an Oedipus complex. Arthur then manifests the Oedipus complex in all three of his attitudes, which are the feeling of threatened by father figure or man who related with his mother, the obedience to his mother, and replacement of mother position to woman who resemble her.

Arthur Fleck lived only with his mother from childhood until adulthood. This causes him to have an attachment to his mother. That's why Arthur doesn't like the existence of Thomas Wayne, a man his

mother often adores. Apart from that, Oedipus complex behaviour seen in a person is their dislike of the presence of a father or male figure related to their mother because of feelings of threat. Someone who has an Oedipus complex, they will often feel threatened by someone close to their mother, in this case their father or someone his mother loves.

“If a man feels threatened by another person he identifies as having something in common with his father or someone his mother loves.” (Freud, 322)

Arthur's depicted of his feelings of threat towards someone his mother loves is potrayed in the narrative below:

It's the envelope he was supposed to deliver to Thomas Wayne. He stares at it for a beat. And then- Quietly rips it open, starts to read the letter: " CLOSE ON WORDS, "**Dearest Thomas, I don't know where else to turn... "Need your help... " "You have a son. We have a son. His name is Arthur. "** Stops reading, stays on- "**You have a son. "** **JOKER STARING DOWN AT THE LETTER, reading those words over and over again -- "You have a son. "**

INT. MOM'S BEDROOM, APARTMENT - EARLY MORNING
50 JOKER'S SITTING IN A CHAIR in his mother's room watching her sleep. He has clearly been up all night. Still wearing the same clothes. **He's holding her letter in his hand as the sun is just**

starting to rise outside the windows, light just beginning to crack the gloom. Arthur impatiently sits there for another moment waiting for his mother to wake up, then suddenly-- SHRIEKS OUT AT THE TOP OF HIS LUNGS like a teapot, kicking his back on the chair like an excited toddler-- His mother wakes with a start, looking around half asleep and confused— (00.50.00-00.51.50)

A person with an Oedipus complex will usually feel easily threatened by a father or figure he sees as a father. Arthur lived only with his mother since childhood without knowing who his father was. This caused him to be very close and dependent on his mother, and often felt unhappy with Thomas Wayne. However, he found a fact in the letters that Penny often sent to Thomas, the fact that Arthur was Thomas' son. This made Arthur feel both excited and angry, and he took it out by making a fuss until his mother woke up from her sleep.

As discussed previously, someone who has an Oedipus complex tends to want to be recognized by their mother. This also includes the feeling of being recognized for their strength beyond their father or the man their mother loves. Finally, sensitive feelings arise when someone expresses their weakness along with hostility towards a figure they identify as their father or the man their mother loves.

“...paying attention to everything related to the authentication as a gentleman, places his father as a rival, feel threatened by a person he identify as his father, and is very sensitive to being slighted statements about his size, weakness, incompetence, and lack of experience.” (Storr, 37).

In the *Joker* (2019), the portrayed of Arthur feel sensitive about his incompetence in being funny, shown in the dialogue below:

ARTHUR You worked for him over 30 years ago. What makes you think he would help us?

Penny looks at him with conviction, water dripping down her face, into her eyes. She wipes it away with her hands—

PENNY Because Thomas Wayne is a good man. If he knew how I was living, if he saw this place, it would make him sick. I can't explain it to you any better than that.

Arthur nods. Annoyed, but not worth the argument.

ARTHUR I don't want you worrying about money. Everyone been telling me they think my stand-up is ready for the big clubs. It's just a matter of time before I get a break.

PENNY Happy, what makes you think you could do that?

ARTHUR What do you mean?

PENNY I mean, don't you have to be funny to be a comedian?

(00.20.53-00.21.09)

Oedipus complex causes a son to position his father as a rival, to feel threatened by the person he identifies as his father, and to be highly sensitive to disparaging remarks about his size, weakness, incompetence, and shortcomings. experience. In this case, Arthur shows his dislike for Thomas Wayne, whom he identifies as someone important to his mother. He tried to discourage Thomas even though his mother always denied that Thomas was a good man. Arthur's mother, Penny, even denied Arthur's statement that he would become a famous comedian, saying why Arthur thought that, because being a comedian means having to be a fun person.

The depiction of a boy's love for his mother in the Oedipus complex is usually described as an erotic relationship. This arose because of the id of a boy who wanted to dominate his mother. However, this of course goes against their morals, which causes the id to not be fulfilled and is suppressed by the boys' superego. One form of the superego is replacing their love for their mother with a feeling of obedience and wanting to be acknowledged by their mother

According to Freud, a boy's superego is greater than his id, the result is that the superego plays a role by diverting these feelings and them with adherence to morality, shame or morality, shame or disgust.

and ultimately make them more obedient to their parents, especially parents who have a big role in their lives (Honig, 70-77). In the *Joker* (2019), this is shown in the dialogue below:

ARTHUR “I know what that's like, Murray. I've been the man of the house for as long as I can remember. I take good care of my mother.”

The audience starts to applaud Arthur.

MURRAY FRANKLIN “All that sacrifice. She must love you very much.”

ARTHUR “**She does. She always tells me to smile and put on a happy face. She says that I was put here to spread joy and laughter.**”

MURRAY FRANKLIN What? Hold on. Can you say that again?

ARTHUR (beaming with pride) “**My mother told me I had a purpose, to bring laughter and joy to the world.**” (00.12.00-00.13.00)

The superego that a boy has changes their feelings of love into obedience to the parent who is close to them, in this case the mother. Arthur in this scene explains to Murray that he is an obedient child who always takes care of his mother. He also uses his mother's words as a

life guide and motivation in seeking happiness, namely becoming a comedian who brings happiness to many people.

In addition, Arthur, who has an attachment to his mother, subconsciously likes a woman who looks or feels familiar like his mother. Oedipus complex results in boys who cannot get their mothers, eventually visualizing other women who are considered to have similarities with their mothers. However, according to Sigmund Freud, “the accidents or occurrences in Oedipus' life occurred as a result of sexual complexity between Oedipus and his mother” (Ahmed, p 62).

In this movie, this is shown in Arthur's interactions with Sophie. He has an attitudes that he seems attracted to Sophie who looks like his mother indirectly. The portrayed of Arthur liking a woman who is familiar to his mother is in the dialogue and narrative below

“SOPHIE (shaking her head; to Arthur) “This building is just so awful, isn't it?”

Arthur nods yes... he doesn't know what to say. The little girl just keeps babbling about what she wants for her birthday.

Sophie can't take it any more, looks over at Arthur and mimes blowing her head off with her finger—

Arthur's eyes go wide.

The doors open. They all step off. Sophie grabs her daughter's hand and walks down the hall in the opposite direction of Arthur.

He just stands there for a beat. Heart beating fast”

(00.18.52-00.19:05)

Arthur meets Sophie, a young mother without a husband who has a daughter. In Arthur's eyes, Sophie is very attractive to him. The Oedipus complex causes a person to be attracted to someone who feels familiar or similar to their mother, whether they realize it or not. In this scene, Arthur feels attracted to Sophie. Visually, Sophie, who lives only with her child, feels familiar to him, who lives only with his mother.

The Oedipus complex causes a boy to have an attraction and emotional attachment to a parent of the opposite sex. Mainly, a son tends to be attracted to their mother, but normally they realize that being attracted to their own mother is a mistake, so the boy's superego suppresses these feelings by taking it out on other women. (Freud, 177). The woman usually have several similarities with the boy's mother, whether physical, character, personality, or conditions that make a man who has an Oedipus complex character feel familiar with that woman.

Therefore, Sophie praising Arthur as a funny person made him feel close to Sophie, because it was a compliment he always expected to

come from his mother. Additionally, the following dialogue provides further evidence of this nature:

SOPHIE: Were you following me today?

ARTHUR: Yeah.

SOPHIE: I thought that was you. I was hoping you'd come in and rob the place.

INT. ARTHUR (leans in, quietly): I have a gun. I could come by tomorrow.

SOPHIE (laughing) **You're so funny, Arthur.** (50.00-51.50)

In this scene, Sophie is seen giving praise to Arthur. Arthur has always wanted to be a comedian because of what his mother used to say about him always bringing happiness. This made Arthur feel familiar and closer to Sophie. Based on these facts, Arthur has the Oedipus complex character portrayed in the *Joker* (2019).

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

Arthur Fleck's character in *Joker* is described as having a strange personality and being mentally ill. Since childhood, the person closest to him was only his mother, because he only lived with his mother without a father figure. In this movie, Arthur shows everything from symptoms to Oedipus complex attitudes.

Arthur Fleck as the main character in the *Joker* (2019) has several symptoms of the Oedipus complex. Among them are fixation, hostility, jealousy, and over-attachment. Arthur shows his fixation through his actions which tend to obey his mother. Since childhood, his mother always told him that he was the bringer of happiness and joy to the world, his mother even had the nickname "happy" for him. This motivates Arthur to become a big and famous comedian, which eventually becomes his ambition when he grows up. After that, Arthur also showed feelings of displeasure or hostility towards Thomas Wayne, a successful conglomerate whose mother was crazy about him. He doesn't like every time his mother discusses or worships Thomas Wayne, because he feels that without Wayne, his mother could depend only on him. This feeling is also based on Arthur's jealousy of Thomas Wayne. How his mother admired Wayne and doubted Arthur's abilities when he said he would become a great comedian, so Penny, his mother,

no longer needed to have any hopes for Thomas Wayne. Then, Arthur's habit of feeding his mother and watching television in his mother's room had become an excessive attachment. Because of this over-attachment, when Penny was hospitalized, Arthur lost the figure of his mother and tried to replace her by sleeping in his mother's room and hugging the pillow that his mother always used.

After fulfilling the 4 symptoms of the Oedipus complex, Arthur manifests the Oedipus complex in his 3 attitudes, namely replacing his mother's position with Sophie, a woman he feels familiar with. Then, the obedience he has for his mother as a form of superego that suppresses those feelings based on abnormal morality and turns them into a form of obedience to his mother. Finally feeling threatened and sensitive every time he heard Thomas Wayne's name praised by his mother, or when his mother mentioned his inability to become a comedian after Arthur said that he wanted his mother to depend on him, who would become a popular comedian.

B. Suggestion

Analysis of the Oedipus Complex research on the *Joker* (2019) produces several suggestions for further research. First, applying the Oedipus Complex theory to different subjects, other writers can use Sigmund Freud's Oedipus Complex theory to analyze other literary works such as the *The Grifters* (1990). Second, other writers can analyze the *Joker* (2019) using other psychological theories such as

Schizophrenias Theory by Eugen Bleuler with Arthur Fleck as the research subject. Lastly, for other writers who want to study the *Joker* (2019), they can also pay more attention to other elements besides psychological, one of which is social and class which is quite prominent in this movie.



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