

**MURDER REFLECTED IN ROBERT GALBRAITH'S  
*THE CUCKOO'S CALLING* (2013):  
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



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**APPROVAL**

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## TESTIMONY

Herewith, the researcher testifies that in this research paper, there is no plagiarism of the previous literary work which has been raised to obtain bachelor degree of a university, nor there are opinions or masterpieces which have been written or published or others, except those in which the writing are referred in the manuscript and mentioned in literary review and bibliography.

Hence, later, if it is proved that there are mistakes in the researcher's statement above, the researcher will be fully responsible.

Surakarta, May 10, 2016

The Researcher,



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**Abstrak**

Masalah utama dalam penelitian ini adalah pembunuhan. Penelitian tersebut ditunjukkan dengan keinginan untuk membunuh karena uang. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah pendekatan psikoanalitik. Objek studi dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis novel berdasarkan pada pendekatan kualitatif. Penulis menggunakan dua sumber data: data primer dan sekunder. Sumber data primer dari penelitian ini adalah *The Cuckoo's Calling* novel oleh Robert Galbraith. Data sekundernya adalah data-data yang mendukung yang diambil dari buku-buku sastra, internet dan beberapa artikel yang berhubungan dengan novel tersebut. Metode pengumpulan data adalah dengan cara penulis menggunakan penelitian diskritif kualitatif. Menggunakan pendekatan psikoanalitik sebagai kerangka teori: Pertama, berdasarkan analisis struktural, John Bristow menyampaikan pesan bahwa obsesi yang tidak wajar dapat menyebabkan dampak negatif terhadap orang lain, misalnya pembunuhan. Kedua, berdasarkan analisis psikoanalitik, John Bristow ingin menyampaikan fenomena psikologi yaitu jenis kepribadian yang menyebabkan pembunuhan.

Kata kunci: pembunuhan, keinginan, pendekatan psikoanalitik.

**Abstracts**

The major problem of this study is murder. It shows the desire to kill for the obsession of money. The approach used for this study is psychoanalytic approach. The objective of this study is to analyze this novel based on the Psychoanalytic Approach. The research employs qualitative research. The research uses two data sources: primary and secondary. The primary data source of the study is *The Cuckoo's Calling* novel by Robert Galbraith. Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, internet, and some articles related to the novel. The method of data collection is the researcher will employ the descriptive qualitative research. Using a psychoanalytic approach as the theoretical framework: First, based on the structural analysis, John Bristow delivers a message that unnatural obsession can cause effect to another people such as murder. Second, based on psychoanalytic analysis John wants to convey the psychological phenomena that is a type personality that leads to murderer.

Keywords: murder, desire, psychoanalytic approach.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the progress of the modern society grows rapidly. Most societies, from ancient to modern life have considered murder a very serious crime deserving harsh punishment for purpose of retribution, deterrence, rehabilitation or incapacitation. People have many problems in their life. In life, there are so the reasons why murder has been criminalized, including its costs to society as well as being considered intrinsically wrong because it violates a right to life or is oppressive, murder may be costly to society by undermining law and order.

The criminal code of 1961 in Samaha (2010: 331) defines murder as a person who kills an individual without lawful justification. It knows that such acts create a strong probability of death or great bodily harm to that individual. Lord Coke in Dow (1985: 71) defined common law murder as follows: "when a person, of sound memory and discretion, unlawfully killed any reasonable creature in being and under the King's peace, with malice aforethought". According to Blackstone (1969: 191) There are kinds of murder as follows: Voluntary manslaughter and Involuntary manslaughter.

*The Cuckoo's Calling* was written by Robert Galbraith is pseudonym J.K. Rowling. Joanne "Jo" Rowling, JK Rowling was born on 31 July 1965 in Yate, Gloucestershire. JK Rowling is a British novelist best known as the author of the Harry Potter fantasy series. The books have gained worldwide attention, won multiple awards and sold more than 400 million copies. JK Rowling was working as a researcher and bilingual secretary for Amnesty International when she conceived the idea for the Harry potter series while on a delayed train from Manchester to London in 1990. The seven year period that followed saw the death of the mother, birth of her first child. Divorce from her first husband and relative poverty until JK Rowling finished the first novel in the series, Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone, in 1997. There were six sequel, the last, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, in 2007. JK Rowling has written books for the novel is *The Cuckoo's Calling* (2013). Published in April it is the first in a crime fiction novel by J.K Rowling.

*The Cuckoo's Calling* is an interesting novel, there are three reasons that *The Cuckoo's Calling* is interesting. First, there are many interesting characters. The character is so well drawn because they have real identities. Second, it's the first crime novel and the writer also interested in the plot. Third, this is a brilliant classic crime. The novel has a good story. It tells also about love and friendship. Based on the background above, the researcher proposes to conduct a research entitled "Murder reflected in Robert Galbraith's *The Cuckoo's Calling* (2013): A Psychoanalytic Approach".

Based on the title, the researcher aims analysis the problem as follow: "What are the problems in the murder reflected in Robert Gailbraith's *The Cuckoo's Calling* (2013)". The object of the study is Robert Galbraith's *The Cuckoo's Calling* (2013) using a psychoanalytic approach. In analyzing data, the writer employs "descriptive qualitative research" in which the writer just collects the data, classifies the data and analyzes it.

The writer finds three researches that have been conducted by Muhammad Fanani Septivani (UNESA, 2016) entitled "*John Bristow's Narcissistic Personality Disorder In Robert Galbraith's The Cuckoo's Calling*". This reaseach is purposed to analyze what causes of John Bristow's Narcissistic Personality Disorder and the depiction of John Bristow's Narcissistic Personality Disorder. The analysis points out that how John Bristow's early childhood narcissism development stage become unstable due to his mother that does not give him the affection like she gives to John's two adoptive siblings and pictured the images of John Bristow's Narcissistic Personality Disorder in novel.

The second one is conducted by Shintya Wulandari (USU, 2016) entitled "*The Characteristic Of Detective Story In The Cuckoo's Calling By Robert Galbraith*". The writer was interested to discuss about the elements which declared that this novel is really detective story. The writer used descriptive research and instrinsic approach.

The third is conducted by Luthfiyyah Aqilah (UIN Sunan Ampel, 2015) entitled "*The Psychological Problems Seen In John Bristow As Character To The Reflection Of Qabil's Character To That Robert Galbraith's The Cuckoo's Calling*". The writer was interested to discuss the thesis that focuses on analyzing

the characterization of John Bristow and the thesis is to examine the motif that leads John kills his brother and sister.

The difference between the writer from the previous studies is in the issue and approach. The similarity between the writer with previous study is using the same novel. The researcher assumes that there is no researcher who has analyzed Murder reflected in *The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith (2013) using psychoanalytic approach.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

In analyzing *The Cuckoo's Calling* novel by Robert Galbraith (2013) the writer employs qualitative research. There are two data sources namely primary data source and secondary data source that are needed to do this research. The primary data source of the study is *The Cuckoo's Calling* novel written by Robert Galbraith. The secondary data source includes the references of some books, internet, and dictionary. The technique of data collection uses library data. The data are collected from the books. Firstly, reading *The Cuckoo's Calling* novel repeatedly to identify and find the data needed for this research. Secondly, reading the related books to find out the relevant theory with the issue. Thirdly, collecting the supported data with internet to find more information. In analyzing the data, the writer applies a descriptive qualitative analysis. The first step is analyzing freedom in the novel. The second step is analyzing the structure element in the novel. The third step is analyzing the novel based on psychoanalytic approach.

## RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### 2.1 Structural of personality

In the novel, *The Cuckoo's Calling* has a major character of the novel. There are three kind of personality based on Freud's consists the *id*, *ego* and *superego* and the discussion below shows the *id*, *ego* and *superego*.

#### 3.1.1. *Id*

According to Freud (2000: 25) the *id* is the source of all psychic energy, making primary component of personality. The function *id* is carrying energy it is because Freud call *id* is a pleasure principle. This aspect of personality is entirely unconscious and includes of instinctive and primitive behaviors. *Id* refers exclusive to primitively, instinctive and inherited aspects of personality (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 88). The function *id* is carrying energy it is because Freud call *id* is a pleasure principle. It operates according to the pleasure principle that is the idea that all of your needs should be met immediately. The purpose of pleasure principle is to make someone free from stress or at least reducing stress (Hall, 1980: 29).

The first *id* occurs when John Bristow meets Cormoran Strike in his office, the brother of Lula Landry's. Cormoran Strike is a private investigator. John Bristow tells that her sister is dead from her balcony of the house. Lula Landry is a very famous supermodel. John Bristow's *id* said that he wants implores Cormoran Strike to discover the death of her sister Lula Landry because he pays double fee when Strike discover this case.

The second *id* occurs when John tells Cormoran that he has one bother, he is Charlie Bristow. Sir Alec and Lady Bristow adopted three children, they are John, Charlie, and Lula Bristow. Lula Landry was adopted when she was four years old, shortly after Charlie's death. John feels sad and depressed when he lost all the member of his family. Sir Alec died suddenly from a heart attack and his mother is very ill.

The third *id* occurs when John's *id* says that he wants to have an identity of being a good man and devoted son to his mother Lady Yvette because he has fawned over his mother and played the devoted son. John always care with his mother when his mother is very ill, hemakes attention with his mother.

The fourth *id* occurs when John Bristow is jealous with his brother and sister. They are Charlie and Lula Landry because since he was childhood and knowing that he was unloved by his

mother Lady Yvette because his mother always loved Charlie. Everyone did, even uncle Tony. When the moment Charlie had gone, when John might have expected to be the center of attention at last, Lula Landry arrives to be his family and everyone starts worrying about Lula Landry.

The fifth *id* occurs when Cormoran Strike meets Lady Yvette. John's *id* that John does not want Cormoran asks his mother any question that brings John into a danger because there is something hidden there. The sixth *id* occurs when John wants Alison in court. John asks her to lie for him. John persuaded her to say that she saw John at the office on the morning before Lula Landry died because John knows her adored Tony, she was delighted to have a chance to look like a desirable female in front Tony so she agreed. he is a manipulative played with the devastated bereaved brother.

The seventh *id* occurs when Cormoran Strike found something is important that is a note written by Lula Landry. Lula Landry leaves all her wealth to her biological brother, Jonah Agyeman is Lula Landry's biological half-brother, and served in the British Army in Afghanistan, Jonah is a soldier. John looks shock that he does not know about Jonah Agyeman after hearing what Cormoran said.

The eighth *id* occurs that John has a supermodel sister which so rich, She is Lula Landry is a mixed-race girl, Lula is 23 years old. She is a poor woman who never took proper care of Lula Landry. By the time she was four year old, she had been taken away from Marlena, and been adopted by Sir Alec Bristow. A very beautiful famous supermodel girl and being loved everybody but John does not have it. So that is why John also wants to have all of those. Lula Landry's wealth, beautiful and love to make it his own. The ninth *id* occurs when Cormoran Strike figures out that John Bristow is in fact the murderer and that he was also responsible for Charlie's death years before. John serves his *id* by killing Lula because of money. He is the person who benefits most from Lula death is John. Ten million quid, once your mother gives up the ghost because he does not got much money more than your salary.

The tenth *id* occurs when John tells with Strike about someone who was the man on the CCTV. John's *id* that John knew it was Jonah on the CCTV that running away from the scene the night that Lula dead. The eleventh *id* occurs when Strike tells about Rochelle. John's *id* that he put every obstacle could in the way of Strike finding Rochelle because he knows that Rochelle was seeing a will.

### 3.1.2 *Ego*

The ego is the component of the personality that is responsible for dealing with reality. Hall and Lindzey (1970: 37) that the ego is operated by reality principle that means gratification of instinct is delayed until an optimum time the human being can get the most pleasure with the least of unpleasant consequences. The ego is the first and foremost a bodily ego, Freud the roots of the ego are to be found in body sensations and feelings (Freud, 2000: 26). The ego functions in both the conscious, preconscious and unconscious mind. The reality principle enables the individual to inhibit, gradually.

The first *ego* occurs when John Bristow wants implores Cormoran Strike to discover the death of her sister's Lula Landry because he pays double pee when Strike discover this case but Strike trying to find a way to reverse his position without jettisoning his self respect but John's ego occurs when hewant is a justice of the case.

The second *ego* occurs when John talks with Strike. John Bristow's *id* says that he wants implores Cormoran Strike to discover the death of her sister's Lula Landry but he does not believes that his sister 's suicide because he believes that someone pushed her over that her balcony.

The second *ego* occurs when John talks with Strike. John Bristow's *id* says that he wants implores Cormoran Strike to discover the death of her sister's Lula Landry but he does not believes that his sister 's suicide because he believes that someone pushed her over that her balcony.



The third *id* occurs when John wants to have an identity of being a good man and devoted son to his mother's Lady Yvette. John's *ego* is that his ambition to be loved by his mother that he always shows affection to his mother from Lady Yvette quotation he successfully achieves his identity.

The fourth *ego* occurs that John Bristow is smart hid from his feelings that loves Lula. John's *ego* is that he cannot be stopped easily when he faces the big oblate then acting as a good man.

The fifth *id* occurs when John's *id* is that he was using Cormoran Strike in an attempt to frame Lula Landry's biological brother Jonah Agyeman for her murder, suspecting that Lula Landry had made a will leaving her fortune to Jonah. John Bristow hoped that if the will, which he had been unable to locate, surfaced, Jonah would be unable to inherit if he had been convicted of Lula Landry's murder. John tells with Strike about someone who was the man on the CCTV. John knew it was Jonah on the CCTV that running away from the scene the night that Lula dead. John's *ego* that John the best solution to predicament was to fit Jonah up for murder because the money would come to him.

The sixth *ego* occurs when Cormoran also knows that John Bristow's kills Rochelle, she is her homeless friend. She told John when she was there in Vashti's boutique when Lula called Jonah and arranged to meet him that night. Rochelle came to John and told John everything, she started blackmailing John. She wanted money for a flat and some expensive clothes and in returns Rochelle promised to keep her mouth shut about the fact that John were not Lula's heir. John's *id* that he is afraid that Rochelle will says the truth because she witnessed a will leaving Jonah everything. John's *ego* that he killed Rochelle, John also pushed Rochelle until she dead same that he was killed Lula before. John thinks that Rochelle will bring him into a danger and she wanted money from John Bristow.

### 3.1.3 *Superego*

The superego is last component of personality system, the aspect of personality that holds all of our internalized moral standards and ideals that we acquire from both parents and society our sense of right and wrong. The superego operates on the morality principle and motivates us go behave in a socially responsible and acceptable manner. The superego may function on a very primitive level, being relatively incapable of reality testing that incapable of modifying its action depending on circumstances (Pervin, 1984:76). "superego is morality element branch of justice from personal system; superego is the internal representative of traditional value and evaluative norms" (Hall, 1988: 35). The ego ideal develops when a child is rewarded for proper behavior (Feist, 1985: 27).

The first *superego* occurs that when John talks with Strike. John Bristow's *id* that he wants implores Cormoran Strike to discover the death of her sister's Lula Landry, his *superego* realizes that he really love Lula, he thinks that Lula does not show that she would take her own life, it is why he does not believe the reality that he lost his sister.

The second superego occurs when Cormoran wants to investigate Lady Yvette, she is John's mother is willing to Strike meet his mother. His superego's realizes that John helps Comoran to get information from his mother and he helps his mother to make sure that his mother is strong to answer all the questions from Cormoran later.

## 3.2 Murder

People have many problems in their life and desire is something we need in life. Desire must be in the negative way, especially a desire to kill someone that a murder as a person who kills an individual without lawful justification commits murder if, in performing the acts which cause the death. John is ambitious person that kills everything to money. People have many problems in their life. There are so reasons why murder has been criminalized, including its costs to society as well as being considered intrinsically wrong because it violates a right to life or is oppressive, murder may be costly to society by undermining law and order.

John Bristow has a lot desire to kill. First, he killed her brother Charlie Bristow. John's first desire is to kill her brother Charlie. Motives of the killing are, firstly, because he wants attention to his

adoptive mother. She gives to Charlie actually is probably a proper affection that a mother should give to their children. But Lady Yvette as a mother does not give that love to John Bristow like she gives her love to Charlie.

John's second murder occurs when he desires to kill Lula Landry, his sister. Lula Landry is a very famous supermodel. He also targets the money that Lula has being a supermodel. Lula Landry, as a mixed-race girl adopted into a wealthy white family, took a special interest in investigating her biological roots before her death. Cormoran Strike discovers that the murder of Lula Landry was for the ten million pounds she possessed. Cormoran Strike figures out that John Bristow is in fact of the murderer, hoping to get money, and that he was also responsible for Charlie's death years before. He was using Cormoran Strike in an attempt to frame Lula Landry's biological brother Jonah Agyeman for her murder, suspecting that Lula Landry had made a will leaving her fortune to Jonah. John Bristow hoped that if the will, which he had been unable to locate, surfaced, Jonah would be unable to inherit if he had been convicted of Lula Landry's murder. When John got up to Lula's flat, she yelled at you that would not get a penny and pushed from her balcony.

John's third murder occurs when he desires to kill Rochelle. She is Lula's friend from homeless. Rochelle Onifade is found dead, she killed hours after leaving a meeting with Cormoran Strike. He decides that she must have been contact with Lula's murderer. She told John when she was there in Vashiti's boutique when Lula called Jonah and arranged to meet him that night. Rochelle came to John and told John everything, she started blackmailing John. She wanted money for a flat and some expensive clothes and in returns Rochelle promised to keep her mouth shut about the fact that John were not Lula's heir. John afraid that Rochelle will says the truth that John kills Lula. John killed Rochelle because John thinks that Rochelle will bring him into a danger and she just wants money from John Bristow.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

From the analysis of previous chapters, the writer attempts to draw conclusion. Firstly, based on structural analysis, there is evident murder can lead the main character. John Bristow is a main character resembling a lawyer and smart. *The Cuckoo's Calling* tells about murder and desire to kill. All the aspects support each other. The major character of the novel has important role throughout the story. The character of John Bristow is successful to get his desire. In *The Cuckoo's Calling*, John Bristow looks like an ordinary man and makes this story so alive with his action but he appears normal and smart, but quickly turns violent and cruel. The plot flows from the beginning, middle and the end. Point of view of this novel was written is in the third point of view and precisely appropriately applied in the story in the most setting of time and place where the story taken. Style in this novel consists of grammatical structure, sentence construction, diction and figurative language. In grammatical structure of the novel uses the standard English. Diction is, and successful related to each other, finally formulated into good quality of a novel.

Secondly, based on the psychological analysis, Freud's theory of psychoanalytic to analyze John Bristow's personality, the researcher can analyze the major character, theory that is related to a desire of personality. John Bristow is very successful in fulfilling his desire. John Bristow is discovered in expressing his *id*. He kills his sibling, Charlie Bristow, and Lula Landry, also Rochelle, to serves his *id*. John cannot control his *ego*, and this explanation matches with Sigmund Freud's theory when he says that the *ego* sometimes is called the executive agency of the personality because it controls action selected in the features of the environment to which a person will respond and decide how a person's need can safely be satisfied. John Bristow's *id* wins over his ego because he cannot control his ego and serves his id by killing Rochelle.

Thirdly, *The Cuckoo's Calling novel* tells about desire to kill. John Bristow is ambitious person that her desire he will do anything to killing someone. He is very successful in fulfilling his desire. John will gain the ten million from Lula Landry's death. It looks John kills Lula Landry because of her

money and he is jealous with her brother and sister because he was unloved by his mother's Lady Yvette because his mother always loved Charlie. When the moment Charlie had gone, when John might have expectation to be the center of attention at last, Lula Landry arrives to be his family and everyone starts worrying about Lula Landry. John is ambitious person that he will do everything for money.

## **DEDICATION**

This research paper is wholly dedicated to the Almighty God, Allah SWT, her beloved mother, father in heaven, brother, sister, and all of beloved friends.

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