

**ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER'S PERSONALITY IN "SWEET  
BEAN PASTE" NOVEL BASED ON FREUD'S THEORY AND ITS  
IMPLICATION IN SELF-DEVELOPMENT**

**THESIS**



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**STATE ISLAMIC INSTITUTE (IAIN) OF KEDIRI**

**2025**

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BEAN PASTE" NOVEL BASED ON FREUD'S THEORY AND ITS  
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I hereby declare that the thesis and the work presented in it are my own and it has been generated by me as result of my own original research. It does not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person except those indicated to quotations and references. No portion on this work has been submitted in support of an application for another degree of qualification of this or any other university or institute of higher education. Due to this fact, I am the only person responsible for this thesis of there is any subjection or claim from others. This thesis is to fulfill requirement for the degree of Sarjana (S1) in English Study Program, State Islamic Institute (IAIN) of Kediri.

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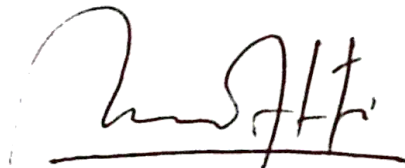
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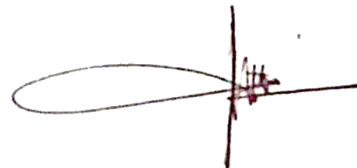
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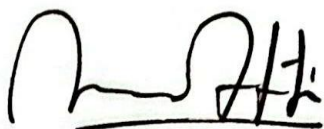
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## DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

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2. My beloved parents, Mr. Dakim and Ms. Sulastri who always pray, give spirit, support, attention, and motivation for completing this thesis.
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Finally, the researcher hopes this thesis will be useful for all readers. Because the researcher realizes that this thesis is not perfectly enough yet, the researcher excites to receive constructive criticism and suggestion to make this thesis better.

**MOTTO**

*“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit”*

**-Aristoteles-**

## ABSTRACT

Za'in, Teemi Asmaul. 2025, *Analysis of the Main Character's Personality In "Sweet Bean Paste" Novel Based on Freud's Theory and Its Implication in Self-Development*. Faculty of Tarbiyah, Department of English Education, State Islamic Institute of Kediri. Advisor: (1) Nur Afifi, M. App. Ling., Ph. D. (2) Mohammad Muhyidin, M. Pd.

**Keywords:** *Freud's Psychoanalysis, Personality Structure, Defense Mechanism, Novel Character Analysis, Self-Development*

This research analyzes the personality structure and defense mechanisms of the main character, Sentaro, in Durian Sukegawa's novel *Sweet Bean Paste* using Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis theory. The theory is closely connected to how human mind works which breaks the mind down into three main parts: the *id*, *ego*, and *superego*. The study explores how these parts of Sentaro's personality interact and influence his thoughts, behaviors, and emotional reactions throughout the story. By examining these aspects, the research reveals how Sentaro's inner conflicts, unresolved trauma, and psychological struggles shape his decisions and reflect his growth over time. Furthermore, the study investigates how these psychological aspects influence self-development of the main character.

This research is a qualitative descriptive that applies literary criticism as the method which describing, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating the literary work. Data is collected from the novel's narratives, character dialogues, and monologues, then analyzed using Freud's theory. The findings show that in the early part of the story, Sentaro's actions are heavily influenced by the *id*, making him act impulsively. However, as the story progresses, his *ego* and *superego* become more active, helping him make decisions based on reality and moral awareness. The research identifies six defense mechanisms used by Sentaro such as identification, displacement, repression, fixation, regression, and projection. These reflect his psychological responses to trauma and emotional stress.

These psychological aspects influence his personal and social development throughout the story. His transformation, from someone controlled by impulse and avoidance into someone more emotionally aware and socially conscious, shows that inner conflict can lead to personal change. This development not only supports the psychological depth of the character but also reflects the real-life value of emotional resilience. The study also highlights the usefulness of psychoanalysis in literature, showing how literary characters can be analyzed as complex individuals. Lastly, the findings offer a pedagogical value: the novel can be used as a teaching tool to explore human psychology, promote empathy, and develop a deeper understanding of self and others.

## LIST OF CONTENTS

<b>DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>APPROVAL PAGE .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>RATIFICATION SHEET .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>DEDICATION .....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>MOTTO .....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>LIST OF CONTENTS .....</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES .....</b>	<b>xiii</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>xiv</b>
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
A. Research Background.....	1
B. Research Questions .....	4
C. Objective of Research .....	4
D. Significant of Research .....	4
E. Limitation of Research.....	5
F. Definition of Key Terms .....	5
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....</b>	<b>6</b>
A. Literature .....	6
B. Novel.....	6
C. Character .....	7
D. Characterization .....	10
E. Personality.....	11
F. Psychoanalysis .....	12
G. Defense Mechanism.....	17
H. Self Development.....	20
I. Previous Studies .....	24
J. Synopsis of Durian Sukegawa’s Novel “Sweet Bean Paste” .....	27

<b>CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>29</b>
A. Research Design.....	29
B. Data Source .....	29
C. Research Instrument.....	30
D. Data Collection.....	30
E. Data Analysis .....	30
F. Triangulation .....	31
<b>CHAPTER IV FINDING AND DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>33</b>
A. Findings.....	33
B. Discussion .....	100
<b>CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION .....</b>	<b>110</b>
A. Conclusion .....	110
B. Suggestion.....	110
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>APPENDIX.....</b>	<b>116</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 4. 1 Data Findings of Personality Structure in the Novel.....	33
Table 4. 2 Data Findings of the Main Character's Defense Mechanism .....	69

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4. 1 The Influence of the Personality Structure during the Plot .....	85
Figure 4. 2 The Use of Defense Mechanisms during The Plot .....	95

## LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Validation Checklist for Data Analysis .....	116
Appendix 2 Thesis Advisor's Validation Check for Data Analysis .....	117
Appendix 3 Previous Studies that Use Freud's Theory .....	118
Appendix 4 Front Cover of The Novel .....	121
Appendix 5 Back Cover of The Novel.....	122