

ABSTRACT

IHSAN, MUHAMMAD. (2026). **Charlie Babbitt's Personality Transformation in Barry Levinson's Rain Man: A Psychoanalytic Study**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Barry Levinson's *Rain Man* (1988) portrays the transformation of Charlie Babbitt, a self-centered businessman whose priorities gradually shift after an unexpected reunion with his estranged autistic brother, Raymond. While previous studies have focused largely on Raymond's characteristics, Charlie's internal psychological development remains underexplored. This research examines Charlie's personality transformation from a psychoanalytic perspective.

This research addresses three problems: how Charlie is characterized through id-driven behavior at the start of the film, how his character develops throughout the film, and how the shifts in the id, ego, and superego manifest in his personality by the end of the film.

This research uses a psychoanalytic approach and library research method. The primary source is the film *Rain Man* (1988). The analysis applies the theory of characterization by Boggs and Petrie, Freud's theory of the id, ego, and superego, and Chatman's narrative theory.

The analysis finds that Charlie's early behavior is entirely id-driven, marked by selfishness and only a weak, procedural sense of moral conflict. The cross-country road trip with Raymond becomes the catalyst for change: forced to live alongside his brother, Charlie begins accommodating Raymond's routines, and his recovery of the childhood *Rain Man* memory marks the turning point where practical adjustment gives way to genuine emotional connection. By the end of the film, the superego has emerged as the dominant force, evident in Charlie's honesty at the custody hearing, his rejection of a financial offer to preserve his relationship with Raymond, and his quiet, selfless farewell at the railway station. These findings confirm that Charlie's transformation is a gradual process shaped by the continuous tension between the id, ego, and superego.

Keywords: character development, characterization, psychoanalysis, *Rain Man*, transformation.

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Rain Man (1988) karya Barry Levinson menggambarkan transformasi Charlie Babbitt, seorang pebisnis egois yang prioritasnya berangsur-angsur berubah setelah pertemuan kembali yang tidak terduga dengan saudara autisnya yang terasing, Raymond. Sementara penelitian-penelitian sebelumnya banyak berfokus pada karakteristik Raymond, perkembangan psikologis internal Charlie masih belum banyak dieksplorasi. Penelitian ini mengkaji transformasi kepribadian Charlie dari sudut pandang psikoanalitik.

Penelitian ini membahas tiga masalah: bagaimana Charlie digambarkan melalui perilaku yang dikendalikan id pada awal film, bagaimana karakternya berkembang sepanjang film, dan bagaimana pergeseran id, ego, dan superego termanifestasi dalam kepribadiannya di akhir film.

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan psikoanalitik dan metode studi pustaka. Sumber primer penelitian ini adalah film Rain Man (1988). Analisis menerapkan teori karakterisasi oleh Boggs dan Petrie, teori id, ego, dan superego Freud, serta teori naratif Chatman.

Analisis menemukan bahwa perilaku awal Charlie sepenuhnya dikendalikan oleh id, ditandai dengan sikap egois dan kesadaran moral yang masih lemah dan bersifat prosedural. Perjalanan darat bersama Raymond menjadi katalis perubahan: dipaksa hidup berdampingan dengan saudaranya, Charlie mulai mengakomodasi rutinitas Raymond, dan pemulihan kenangan masa kecil tentang Rain Man menjadi titik balik di mana penyesuaian praktis berkembang menjadi hubungan emosional yang tulus. Di akhir film, superego telah muncul sebagai kekuatan yang dominan, terlihat dari kejujuran Charlie di sidang hak asuh, penolakannya terhadap tawaran finansial demi mempertahankan hubungannya dengan Raymond, serta perpisahannya yang tenang dan penuh perhatian di stasiun kereta api. Temuan-temuan ini menegaskan bahwa transformasi Charlie merupakan proses bertahap yang dibentuk oleh ketegangan terus-menerus antara id, ego, dan superego.

Kata kunci: character development, characterization, psychoanalysis, Rain Man, transformation