

**THE ATTEMPTS OF BEING PERFECT
AS REFLECTED BY NINA SAYERS,
THE MAIN CHARACTER OF *BLACK SWAN* THE MOVIE**

THESIS

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**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
FACULTY OF CULTURE STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF BRAWIJAYA**

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THESIS

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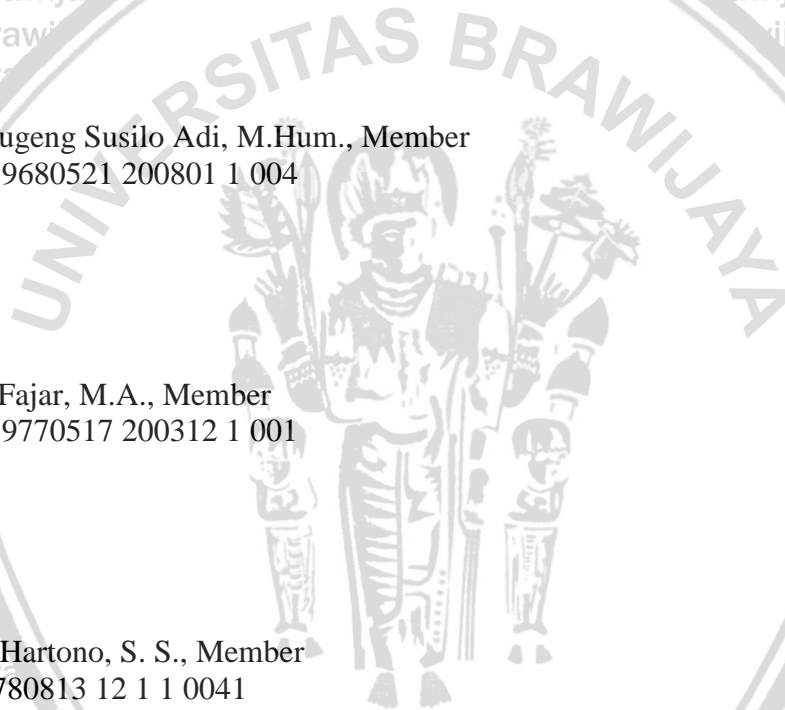
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ABSTRACT

Yonathan, Elsa Priskila. 2012. **The Attempts of Being Perfect as Reflected by Nina Sayers, the Main Character of *Black Swan* the Movie.** Study Program of English, Department of Language and Literature, Faculty of Culture Studies, University of Brawijaya. Supervisor: Yusri Fajar; Co-supervisor: Didik Hartono.

Keywords: Individual Psychology, Perfectionism, Black Swan.

Each individual in the world has a personal standards-set to achieve a success in life. These standards differ from one person to another, because they depend on the objectives to be achieved. The theory that describes the achievement of perfection is performed by human called perfectionism advanced by Alfred Adler. The theory is applied as an outline of the approach of individual psychology. There are six factors that affect someone in the process of pursuing of perfection, namely, the inferiority principle, superiority principle, style of life principle, creative self principle, functional goals principle and social interest principle. Every person has different action and reaction in attain the perfection. If someone feels the efforts he has done has not yielded result as he wants, he will perform a variety of other efforts in reaching the stage of perfection.

The phenomenon of perfection is found in "Black Swan" the movie. In this film, the main character, Nina Sayers, has ambition to become a perfect Swan Queen. Although people see her as a perfect one, but the perfection according to Nina is the achievement of the standards she has set by herself. This standard led her to be too ambitious to beat the previously properties and allow the new get into her. Nina, who wants to be perfect, had to go through the process with a variety of hallucinations that cause pain and pleasure when she has to do a sexual activity where the both of two activities make Nina achieve her perfection and also will destroy Nina's life as well.

The author gives some advice to the readers and the further researchers. First, if they want to analyze using the same theory, they should study in depth the theory of perfectionism. Second, for those who want to take the same object of research, they must analyze the object deeper to get a deep insight of the character.

ABSTRAK

Yonathan, Elsa Priskila. 2012. **Upaya dalam Mencapai Kesempurnaan sebagai Tercermin oleh Nina Sayers, Tokoh Utama Film *Black Swan***. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing: (I) Yusri Fajar (II) Didik Hartono.

Kata Kunci: Psikologi Individual, Perfeksionisme, *Black Swan*.

Setiap individu di dunia pasti memiliki standart-standart yang ditetapkan secara pribadi untuk mencapai suatu kesuksesan dalam hidup. Standart ini berbeda antara satu orang dengan lainnya, tergantung pada tujuan yang akan dicapainya. Teori yang menggambarkan pencapaian kesempurnaan yang dilakukan oleh manusia disebut perfeksionisme yang dikemukakan oleh Alfred Adler sebagai garis besar pendekatan psikologi individu. Ada enam faktor yang mempengaruhi seseorang dalam mencapai kesempurnaan, yaitu, prinsip rendah diri, prinsip keunggulan, prinsip gaya hidup, prinsip diri kreatif, prinsip tujuan dan prinsip kepentingan sosial. Setiap orang memiliki aksi dan reaksi yang berbeda dalam pencapaian kesempurnaan. Jika seseorang merasa bahwa usaha yang telah dilakukannya belum membuahkan hasil seperti yang ia inginkan, maka ia akan melakukan berbagai usaha lain dalam pencapaian ke tahap yang disebut kesempurnaan.

Fenomena kesempurnaan ini terdapat pada film “*Black Swan*”. Dalam film ini karakter utama, Nina Sayers, memiliki ambisi untuk menjadi *Swan Queen* yang sempurna. Meskipun orang memandang ia telah sempurna, namun kesempurnaan menurut Nina adalah tercapainya standart yang telah ditetapkannya secara pribadi. Hal ini menyebabkan dirinya terlalu berambisi untuk mengalahkan sifat yang telah dimiliki dan mengijinkan sifat yang baru untuk masuk dan menggeser sifat lama dalam dirinya. Nina harus melalui proses perpindahan tersebut dengan berbagai halusinasi yang menyebabkan ia merasakan kesakitan dan kenikmatan ketika ia harus melakukan aktifitas seksual dimana perasaan tersebut akan menyebabkan Nina mencapai kesempurnaan sekaligus akan menghancurkan hidup Nina.

Selanjutnya, penulis memberikan beberapa saran kepada para pembaca dan peneliti berikutnya. Pertama, jika mereka ingin menganalisa menggunakan teori yang sama, maka mereka harus mempelajari teori perfeksionisme secara mendalam. Kedua, bagi mereka yang ingin mengambil objek penelitian yang sama, mereka harus menganalisa dengan lebih spesifik untuk mendapatkan wawasan mendalam dari karakter utama.

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Malang, 09 February 2012

The Writer

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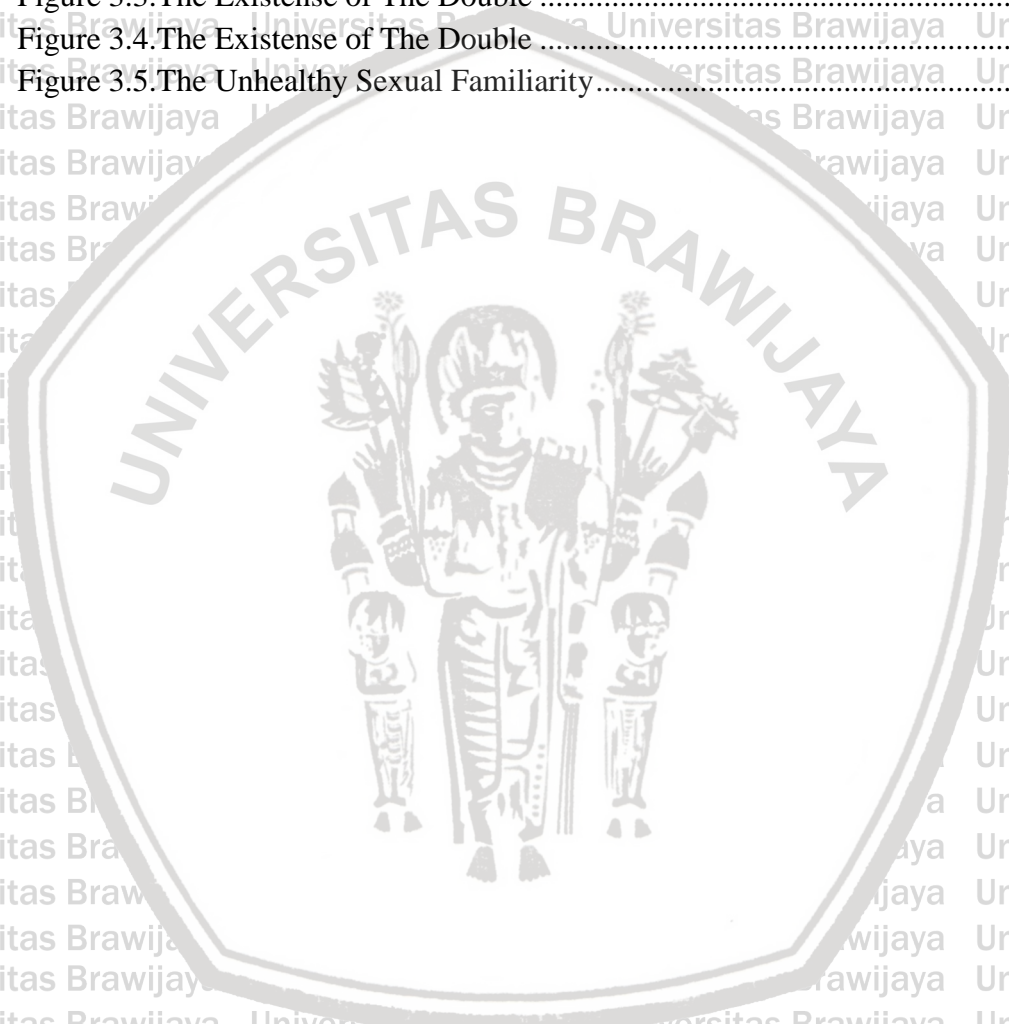
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a reflection of human life that is presented in writing or written language. It describes the events members of the community's life.

Literary works are created through the imaginative writing that takes the author's experience and/or fantasies. Dharma (1984, p. 54) believes that literature is actually expressing a matter of life, philosophy and psychology. The author of literary work was a master of philosophy that expresses the soul and life problems, psychiatric and philosophy through literature. The psychological aspect is often associated with the characters and characterization. In particular, if we discuss about psychological aspect on movie, it is the art of exploitation and psychological character of the story, especially concerning to the conscious and unconscious.

Devereux (2003, p. 9) states that "films are important agents of socialization in that they reproduce dominant (and other) social norms, beliefs, discourses, ideologies and values". Movie is important since it is one of the mass media that functions as a social equipment to promote value and belief to people. In addition, Rahmawati (2008, p. 2) argues that film is identified as the product of popular culture shows that this cultural product is liked by people. That is the reason which makes film becomes powerful media to promote ideology. Thus, psychological movie is one form of literature as defined of Price, "Psychoanalytic theory emphasizes film's elicitation of conscious source of pleasure" (2004, p. 412). From this explanation, the writer can conclude that as a part of

life, the film is a medium to activate deep-rooted psychological, sometimes infantile and non-rational, desires and anxieties.

A film consists of some elements that take important roles in fulfilling the completeness of the story. The crucial one is the element of character portrayed in the story. "character functions as one who brings the core issue in the story that promises the readers a resolution and fulfillment of human need" (Johnson, 2009, p. 1). Thus, the writer uses the main character as the important thing to be analyzed especially in the *Black Swan* movie where the main character has problem in her psychology.

Black Swan is a psychological fiction movie directed by Darren Aronofsky which its plot revolves around a production of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake ballet by a prestigious New York City Company. The main character of this movie is Nina (Natalie Portman) who is perfectly fit for the White Swan but the fit person for Black Swan is the other dancer. The Swan Queen must embody the both side, White and Black Swan. Swan Lake requires a dancer who can play both the White Swan with innocence and grace, and the Black Swan who represents guile and sensuality.

Nina Sayers finds her dark side when she competes for the part of lead principal dancer. She wants to get the principle position and it means that she has to be able to dance as both Black and White Swan. In the first audition, she thrived to dance as White Swan but she failed to dance as Black Swan. No one wants the role more than Nina Sayers, who lives to dance so much so she wants to be exactly like the previous principle, Beth (Winona Ryder), who is retiring at the end of the season, in every aspect.

Thomas (Vincent Cassel) as the artistic director believes that Nina has the dark passion required to portray the Black Swan and he takes Nina to have what she wants. In other side, Nina sees that the ideal dancer to take position of Swan Queen is Lily (Mila Kunis), and it makes her threatened. To be a fit Swan Queen, Nina has to lose herself and

find the dark side or the negative side of her. Nina gets some symptoms like dream and hallucinations. Her unconscious mind drives her to those symptoms to finds her dark passion.

The movie has a unique aspect because it further highlights the individual psychological side of the main character that does anything to be a perfect dancer. As a chosen dancer, being perfect is an important requirement in every play. Perfectionists believe that falling short of being perfect is horrible and that it will lead to some catastrophe (www.montrealobtpsiychologist.com). The perfectionism also leads to anxiety and depression. Perfectionists are afraid in making mistakes in doing something wrong, then they can end up feeling depressed because they cannot live up to their standards and incompetent as people. Related to the movie which going to be analyzed, Nina is someone who wants to get perfection in her performance in her play as Swan Queen. She makes a perfection as her destination, so that she was depressed and got some hallucination before she reaches perfection in her own standard.

To analyze the main character of the movie entitled Black Swan, the writer uses the theory of Alfred Adler's individual psychology which is perfectionism. People, consciously or not, tend to apply their standarts of doing things. Someone is said to have done something perfectly when he has fulfilled these standarts. In the book of Perfectionism and Contemporary Feminist Values, Yuracko states that perfectionisttheory "starts from an account of the good human life, or the intrinsicallydesirable life. . . . it says, constitute human nature or aredefinitive of humanity—they make humans humans. The good life, it thensays, develops these properties to a high degree or realizes what is central tohuman nature" (1993, cited in Yuracko 2003, p. 27).

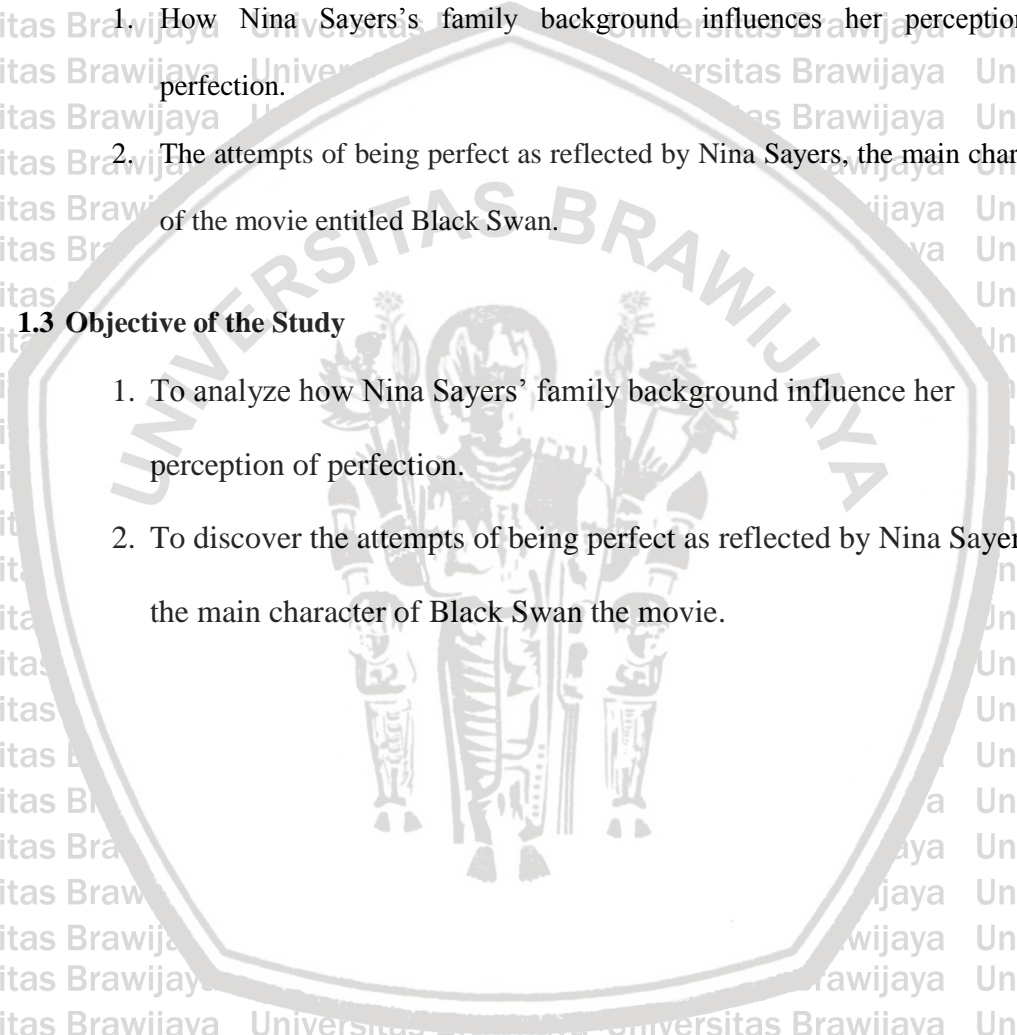
Finally, based on the background above, the writer decides that the research of the thesis is focused on the perspective of perfection, in the attempts of being perfect as reflected on Nina Sayers as the main character of Black Swan movie.

1.2 Problem of the Study

1. How Nina Sayers's family background influences her perception of perfection.
2. The attempts of being perfect as reflected by Nina Sayers, the main character of the movie entitled Black Swan.

1.3 Objective of the Study

1. To analyze how Nina Sayers' family background influence her perception of perfection.
2. To discover the attempts of being perfect as reflected by Nina Sayers, the main character of Black Swan the movie.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Perfectionism

We are surrounded in our culture by the seductive sirens of perfectionism (Winter, 2008, p.1). Everywhere we go, we find advertisement programmes of seducing us to have perfect body, perfect health and also the high performance of technology. Therefore, it is not wrong to have old fashioned things, but the problem comes when we live under the tyranny of believing that the perfection is possible, where the standards so high. Winter also states that “the core of the problem is that when a person’s self worth depends on reaching those high standards, it is an inevitable script for self defeat and their own personal hell of repeated failure and eternal regret” (p. 3). Sometimes, perfectionism leads someone to anxiety states, depression, phobias, compulsive cleanliness, etc.

Kimberly Yuracko states that “perfectionist theories divide into those arguing that certain activities and traits are inherently valuable and those arguing that certain activities and traits are intrinsically valuable regardless of human nature” (2003, p. 27). Perfectionism does not need require the social endorsement of a single way of life and it leads to further destruction and death the harder trying to be perfect, the more people must hide the imperfections. Therefore, Hewitt and Flett (1991) devised the Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale, which rates three aspects of perfectionist self-presentation, they are:

a. Self Oriented Perfectionism.

This type of perfectionism is an internally motivated desire to be perfect and flawless.

b. Other-Oriented Perfectionism

In this case, a person demands perfectionism from his society such as family, friends and partner. This type of perfectionism typically leads to relationship problem because the person himself is continually and excessively critical of other's behavior.

c. Socially Prescribed Perfectionism

People believe that they will be valued by other people if only they are perfect. This is related to the depression and suicide, because hopelessness and helplessness will be judge as someone who is flaw and incompetent if they are not perfect.

The pathways above can heighten an individual's vulnerability to depression considers to the magnitude of dissatisfaction in daily life. This striving to be flawless leaves individuals persistently feeling as though they have failed, that nothing they do will ever be good enough and that mistakes are unacceptable.

In this study, the writer analyzes the main character who has unique characteristics in her way to be a perfectionist person. This character includes the first type of perfectionist, the self-oriented perfectionism. Nina has desire to be in order to be Swan Queen.

2.2 Adler's Perfectionism

Adler previously supported Freud's theory of psychoanalysis, however then he did not agree with Freud's theories about psychic energy since Adler explored his own way in analyzing psychic energy. Adler argues that individual and community life are two different "poles" that are interconnected in tension.

According to Freud, this tension is something that happening inside the individual because the human essence is not a social creature, but Adler believes the

otherwise and that living together is not a barrier in the development of human individualism. In particular, Adler initially specialized in the field of ophthalmology, but then he decided to be psychiatrist. After deciding to be the part of the Viennese Analytic Society with Freud, he formed The Society for Free Psychoanalysis in 1911 by 10 members including him.

Boeree in the *Book of Personality* (1997, p. 149) states that “Alfred Adler postulated a single ‘lust’ or the motivation behind playing all forms of behavior and experience. When the theory was growing and mature, he called the motivation to ‘striving for perfection’”. This is the desire that people use to fulfill every desire and the potential that exist within others, which encourages other to get closer to what their thinking is ideal. By the definition, perfection or an ideal are things that cannot be achieved or earned. In this case, Adler sees the negative side of this idealism such as the reversal of a more positive understanding.

Striving for perfection is not the only phrase used by Adler, but also there are another phrases used by him to refer to the basic motivations that exist in human beings is a compensation or incentive to conquered, such as Destructive Desire, the reaction that occur in a person when his wish like eating, having sex and etc are not realized; Compensation, the ways of a person to redeem the issue regarding the problem and disorders; Masculine Protest, the consideration that boys are more expected than girls. The phrase of Striving for Perfection is the latest phrase he created. Boeree also states that “because we all have problems, limitation and feel inferior to one thing, then Adler in his early writings assume the personality we have to be explained by the ways we are redeemed or

conquered those problems” (2000, p. 376). The explanation of human behavior according to Adler’s theory can be adhered to his own statement that:

The individual ultimate goal behavior that can be used as illustration to explain the behavior. So, activities such as marriage, lawlessness, suicide, humor, supernatural circumstances, smoking, playing and recreation, as well as psikoseneurosis, is an activity that aimed at according to what was formulated by the individual, which is influenced by feelings of inferiority or superior to the typical, lifestyle and self creative typical as well. So, it is difficult to interpret an activity that has meaning is very typical activity for each person and can be formulated by himself, or at least by the action that shown (cited in Adler, 1927, p. 7).

Adler believes that human is motivated by social interest and human is a social creation. People connect themselves to other people, join to social activities and create a life style that prioritizes social orientation.

Horney (1939) also agrees with Adler’s concept that is cited in Samsunuwijaya (2006, p. 69), “Horney considered that the struggle to the save zone, protected, is a tendency in every human life”. Still according to Horney, if these tendencies are not fulfilled, it will display a sense of fear or anxiety that leads symptoms, they are;

- a. Moving toward people
Human search for a form of protection to others by adjusting themselves to other.
- b. Moving against people
The fear that compensated with a negative attitude from the perspective of others. The world is seen as the enemy.
- c. Moving away from people
Human is pulled themselves from the environment, isolate themselves, and trying to cope with the anxieties. (2006, p. 70)

These tendencies are different in every individual and they come in every individual experienced that prevail against excessively.

2.2.1 Inferiority Principle

Adler believes that humans are born accompanied by feelings of inferiority. Instantly the individual realizes his existence, he felt inferior to his role in the environment. Individuals realize that they have ability to achieve something, but some other things cannot be achieved. For example, someone who is doing plastic surgery on her face or the other limbs. She feels by doing the plastics surgery, she will be more sexy or attractive. The person herself has her own standard how to be charming and being respected by others although the others will be fine with the old things before the plastics surgery. This inferiority complex comes up when people want to compete with the strength and abilities of others. Ewen (2003, p. 103) says that “Inferiority feelings is normal and investable feelings of weakness that result from our helplessness during childhood. It may stimulate healthy striving for superiority and compensations”. This feeling brings human to the inferiority complex as the mirror of pathological feeling of weakness, including the belief that one cannot overcome one’s difficulties through appropriate effort. Usually it is accompanied by a conscious or unconscious complex.

At the first time, Adler purposes inferiority to those experienced pain like lung disease, arthritis, etc. He is interested in an unanswered question about why, if people ill or suffer some misfortune, they become sick or feel the disturbance in a particular body part. Adler suggested that what determines the location of a particular disorder is the basic inferiority on the part of it, an inferiority which arise because of heredity because a development abnormality. Hall and Lindzey

(1993, p. 247) state that “Adler expressed that the feeling of inferiority is not a sign of abnormality; but rather the cause of all forms of perfection in human life”.

Adler’s concept was expanded to include all feelings of inferiority, the feelings that arise from a lack of psychological or social perceived subjectively as well as the feelings that arise due to weakness or disability. Human is driven by the need to overcome inferiority and drawn by the desire to be superior.

2.2.2 Superiority Principle

The both principle of inferiority and superiority are closely connected and complementary. However, because as principles, these two terms are different, the discussion was distinguished, though in its operation cannot be separated. Adler (1927) thinks that humans are aggressive creatures and must always be aggressive if they want to survive as the reaction to the emphasis on aspects of sexuality as a primary motivator of behavior according to Freud. According to Adler in superiority there is no superior power over others, but efforts to reach a state superior in themselves and do not always have to compete with others. The man driving force in human life that reveals the reason is the dynamics of individual behavior, namely the drive to achieve superior or perfection.

Adler asserts the superiority of social fragmentation, leadership, or a high position in society. Superiority is a struggle toward perfection, a strong impetus to the top. Hall and Lindzey (1993, p. 246) state that “according to Adler, this struggle is innate; that it become a part of life; even life itself”. From the birth, the struggles to the superior bring the individual from one development stage to the higher stages. Adler admits in this case that the push toward superiority that can

be transformed into a thousand different ways and each person has an individual concrete to achieve perfection.

The goal of superiority may be pursued by either useless or useful activity.

Adler (1966, 71) says that “if people are benevolent, for instance, it may mean one of two things – it may mean that they are socially well adjusted and want to help, or it may simply mean that they want to show off”. The psychologist meets many people whose main goal are to show off and boast. Adler gives an example of this kind of person, in the behavior of criminals – the tendency to claim easy success.

The New York newspaper reported how a burglar was disturbed by some schoolteachers after he broke their home and had a discussion with them. The burglar told the woman they did not know how difficult it was to earn a living in ordinary, honest occupations; it was much easier to be a burglar than to work.

This man escaped to the useless side of life, but by taking this road he had developed a certain superiority complex. He felt stronger than the woman, particularly since he was armed and they were not. He did not realize that he was a coward, but he thought himself a hero.

2.2.3 Style of Life Principle

Adler argues that lifestyle is the principle of a system where the individual's personality functioning. This principle explains the uniqueness of a person. As cited in Personality Theories, Boeree (2004, p. 154) says, “the lifestyle of a tree is the individuality of the tree itself and express it in ways it mingled with the surrounding circumstance”. Lifestyle refers to the ways human beings live their lives and how to solve problems and build relationship with others.

Each individual requires a certain way in order to achieve perfection. Hall and Lindzey also stated what Adler said, "Each individual's lifestyle is largely determined by special-inferiority, whether imaginary or real-owned by someone.

Life style is a compensation of a particular inferiority" (1993, p. 251). A child who has a physical weakness, then the force of his life will manifest himself in doing things that produce a strong physique. A person who is stupid, then he will struggle to achieve intellectual superiority.

Everyone has the same goal, namely to achieve superiority, but the way to pursue this goal is innumerable. For example, the intellectual's life who likes to read, learn and think is different with the athletes. Everything will be done within the framework of one's ultimate goal. A person is perceiving, learning and remembering what is matched in his lifestyle and then ignores the others.

2.2.4 Creative Self Principle

Creative self is a very important factor in an individual's personality, because this was seen as the prime mover, first cause of all behavior. With this principle, Adler wants to explain that human is an artist for himself. Adler believes each person is empowered with the freedom to create her or his own style of life. Ultimately, all people are responsible for who they are and how they behave. Adler (1964, p. 16) states that "creative power is a dynamic concept implying movement, and this movement is the most salient characteristic of life.

All movement toward a goal, movement with a direction". Human's creative power places him in control of their own lives that is responsible for their final

goal, determines their method of striving for that goal, and contributes to the development of social interest.

2.2.5 Fictional Goals Principle

Adler was influenced by Vaihinger's ideas in book *The Philosophy of "As If"* (1911). Vaihinger believes that fictions are ideas that have no real existence, yet they influence people as if they really existed. The example of the fiction is "men are superior to women". Although this notion is a fiction, many people, both men and women, act as if it were a reality. This fiction action is the help of constructions, not the hypothesis that can be proven truth.

"Adler found an idea that people are motivated by the wishes in the future rather than the experienced in the past" (Hall & Lindzey, 1993, 244). Directing a thing of the past into the future would have great impacts. It is because the future is something that has not happened, then the theological approach toward motivation to things are not negotiable. Purpose or hope in the future may not be fully achieved because of the goals and expectations may change in the middle of the road. Theology shows that real life is not easy and uncertain, but it must always be a space called opportunity.

The fictional purpose cannot be separated from the lifestyle and creative self. Humans move toward superiority through lifestyle and the creative self originated from an inferiority complex and always be withdrawn by the apparent destination. Schultz (2005, p. 148) mentions that there are two additional points about striving for superiority, "first, it increases rather than reduces tension... Second, the striving for superiority is manifested both by individual and by

society". Striving for perfection requires great expenditures of energy and efforts, and it is not only as individuals but also as members of a group which are interrelated and interdependent.

2.2.6 Social Interest Principle

Adler proposes the concept of social interest, which he defines as the individual's innate potential to cooperate with other people to achieve personal and society goals. Although we are influenced more strongly by social than biological forces, in Adler's view, the potential for social interest is innate. Adler believes the mother's role was vital in developing the child's social interest as well as other aspects of the personality. He wrote:

This connection [between mother and child] is so innate and far reaching that we are never able in later years to point to any characteristics as the effect of heredity. Every tendency which might be inherited has been adapted, trained, educated and made over again by the mother. Her skill will influence all the child's potentiality. (Adler in Grey, 1998, p. 71)

People begin life with a basic striving force that is activated by ever-present physical deficiencies. These organic weaknesses lead inevitably to feelings of inferiority. However, psychologically unhealthy individuals develop exaggerated feelings of inferiority and attempt to compensate by setting a goal of personal superiority. They are motivated by personal gain rather than by social interest, whereas healthy people are motivated by normal feelings of incompleteness and high levels of personal superiority.



Figure 2.1 Tow Basic Methods of Striving Toward the Final Goal

By using the figure above, Adler illustrates how the innate striving force combines with inevitable physical deficiencies to produce universal feelings of inferiority, which can be either exaggerated or normal. Adler (1935, p. 14) states that “exaggerated feelings of inferiority lead to a neurotic style of life, whereas normal feelings of incompleteness result in a healthy style of life”.

2.3 Birth Order

Adler is the first theorist who claims that not only the father and mother and other adults who give great influence one’s personality, but also his brothers and sisters. Birth order raised by Adler is a heuristic idea – a kind of fiction – that can help us understand others.

Adler's View of Some Possible Traits by Birth Order

Positive Traits	Negative Traits
Oldest Child	
Nurturing and protective of others Good organizer	Highly anxious Exaggerated feelings of power Unconscious hostility Fights for acceptance Must always be "right," whereas others are always "wrong" Highly critical of others
Second Child	
Highly motivated Cooperative Moderately competitive	Highly competitive Easily discouraged
Youngest Child	
Realistically ambitious	Pampered style of life Dependent on others Wants to excel in everything Unrealistically ambitious
Only Child	
Socially mature	Exaggerated feelings of superiority Low feelings of cooperation Inflated sense of self Pampered style of life

Figure 2.2 Adler's View of Some Possible Traits by Birth Order

According to Adler, first-borns are concerned with power and authority.

One way for first-borns to gain power and authority as adults is through achievement in their work. In many areas, from college attendance to high-level management, first-borns have been found to be overrepresented relative to their proportion of the population. "More first-borns than later-borns become eminent and they tend to attain greater intellectual achievement in academic settings and greater power and prestige in their careers" (Schachter, 1963).

2.4 The Hallucination

Blom explains that hallucination can be defined as a percept, experienced by a waking individual in the absence of an appropriate stimulus from the extracorporeal world (2010). The word hallucination has its root in Greek, *aluein*,

which means to wander or to be distraught. Originally neither of these classical terms had a connotation of perceptual disturbance. Fish (2009, p. 29) states that hallucinations are visual experiences in which we seem to see things to be way that the others are not and, as such, are in tension with the theoretical commitments of naive realism. The argument of hallucination begins by defining the problem case – hallucinations being situation in which it visually seems to subject as if they see objects when no appropriate external object exist to be seen – and claiming that these problem cases are possible. In hallucination, we are in a state that seems to us likes a veridical perception of a fact, yet in which they are no suitable facts for the hallucinatory state to acquaint us with.

In the *Black Swan* the movie, the main character experiences some hallucination which is visual hallucination. Blom (2010, p. 537) states that “visual hallucination refers to as vision that means sight”. Hallucinations are associated with the activity in the more peripheral structures and the more complex ones with central activity have proved to be an oversimplification. Hallucinations also are associated with activity in specialized occipital cortical areas is equally questionable.

In other side, Bleuler also (cited in Blom, 2010, p. 218) argues “the hallucination of bodily sensation present such kaleidoscopic multiplicity that no description could possibly do justice to them”. Sometimes, person experiences hallucination and consciously or not, the person himself start to hurts himself. It seems like Saul Kripke, an American logician, “for a sensation to be felt as pain is for to be pain”

The occurrence of spontaneous hallucinatory experiences in sane person who are enjoying good physical health at the time, and who are not drugged or in other unusual physical states of a transient nature such as extreme fatigue, would appear to provide support for the dimensional model. The alternative to this view requires to posit some hidden or latent disease process, of which such experiences are a symptom or precursor, an explanation which would appear to beg the question (Boehme, cited in greatdreams.com, 2008).

The coming of hallucination cannot be estimated even hallucination does not occur in all people. The main character of the *Black Swan* the movie experiences several hallucinations. Although this movie does not explain how she gets her hallucination clearly, but it is clear enough that she can take advantage of every opportunity of the hallucinations toward perfection.

2.5 Movie Studies

The World Book Encyclopedia describes movie as “a moving film is a series of images recorded on film tape that appear to move when it is played through a film projector or a video tape player. Film is the most popular forms of art and entertainment throughout the world. It is also a major source of information (1995, p. 80). Movie is used as a tool of communication completed with audiovisual media which consist of a set of sign. These sign and codes organization are reflected through complex elements in the movie. Moreover, Corrigan also states that films are not just about a subject but a rendition of that subject for particular reason to create certain meaning. “Films are not just about a story, a character, a place or a way of live, yet they also as ‘the way of seeing the elements in live’” (2004, p. 21).

To support the analysis of this movie, the writer uses some elements of the movie, they are framing or the length, camera angle, sound and character. The first is framing, which are has four types of camera shot. The types themselves have their purpose and characteristics. The four types are A Wide Shot that shows the whole scene and it also often used at the start of a scene or sequence; A Medium Shot that shows less of a scene than the wide shot, the camera seems closer to the subject about the waist up; A Close Up Shot shows an even smaller part of the subject to show the detail such as emotional face or the information the audience should see; An Extreme Close Up Shot explore the closer detail such as person's eye or a part of a flower.

The second element is camera angle that is divided into five basic angles they are the Bird's-Eye View that makes the surrounding look wide and other elements look small; High Angle that tends to be ineffective for conveying a sense of speed and useful for suggesting tediousness; the Eye-Level Shot where the camera is positioned about four feet from the floor and shot permit to make up minds about what kind of people is being presented; the Low Angle that shot the object from the below, and; the Oblique Angle that suggest tension, transition and impending movement.

The third important element is the sound. A film sound can be onscreen or offscreen, diegetic or nondiegetic, it can be recorded separately from the image or at the moment of filming. Sound source depends on numerous technical, economic, and aesthetic considerations, each of which can affect the final significance of a film. Yale education explored that "any voice, musical passage

or sound effect presented as originating from a source within the film's world is diegetic. If it is outside the film (as background music) then it is non-diegetic.

Character becomes one of the important element in order to reveal the human consciousness stream. Minderop (2005, p. 121) states, stream of consciousness is the technique that appears characterization of mental awareness

and association that flows away. There are three techniques used in analyzing character,

Direct Interior Monologue that is used to convey the inner contents of the characters in the process of character development which is an inner conversation presenting the characters directly; Indirect Interior Monologue that impresses the narrator's participation in the delivery stream of consciousness; the last part is Soliloquy that used to express a feeling.

Those four kinds of elements are important things to help to analyze "Black Swan" movie as the research object in order to find the answer of the problem. For example in using the mimic of a character, a close up shot should help the writer to analyze what the character is thinking or what the character shows up. Sometimes, in the movie there is no dialog that said by the characters, but by knowing the mimic change the viewer will understand what the characters mean.

2.4 Previous Study

Perfectionist is someone who set a target that is quite high compared others in general. Few studies that have taken perfectionism as a research study is Linda Kreger

Silverman, a licensed psychologist that direct Institute for Study of Advanced Development and the Gifted Development Center. Her research entitled Perfectionism:

The Crucible of Giftedness in 1999 focused on the gifted itself in the eye of Dabrowski

that sees the concept of multilevel development. Although this research and the thesis analysis use the same theory of perfectionism especially in the self-perfection, the most striking difference is if Silverman's research is addressed to be used by the therapist while this thesis analyzes the main character of a movie on self-managing. This thesis also addressed to those who want to enrich the knowledge about perfectionism and the way to analyze using this theory.



CHAPTER III

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Black Swan is a movie that tells about a ballerina named Nina Sayers who obsessed to be a principle dancer in a famous dance company in New York. She was born from a mother who was a failed ballerina and hopes her daughter becomes a famous one. She always supports Nina in her carrier as dancer and eyes her in every single step Nina did.

Nina herself also has a high dream to be the principle or the number one dancer in that company. When she knows that the company will find a new principle dancer, she hopes it will be her. The previous principle dancer was Beth and she has her menopause so nobody wants to see her dancing. The company's director tries to hold a Swan Queen audition to find a ballerina to replace Beth's position. Swan Queen is a person who able to dance both as White Swan and Black Swan which have opposite characteristics, White Swan in innocent and grace attitudes while Black Swan represents guile and sensuality. Like other ballerinas, Nina wants to be a Swan Queen more than anybody. Nina and other dancers believe that Nina is a fit White Swan, but not as Black Swan. Realizing this situation, Nina has to work and practice harder, because she wants the position.

To fulfill her passion to dance as Black Swan, she has to pass some symptoms in her life. These symptoms bring her to find her dark and negative side of her. Nina has an ambition to lose herself, which has the whole White Swan

characteristics, and allow the characteristics of Black Swan come to her. She has to lose herself and find her alter ego to get her fit Black Swan. It is not easy, though since the symptoms hurt her and make her afraid to face it.

Finally, it is Nina, a shy and a fragile woman, that is chosen to play the role of the Swan Queen and must embody both the pure White Swan and the evil

Black Swan. Her quest for perfection as a ballet dancer leads her to experience in her everyday life, the transformation experienced by the White Swan in the ballet's story. The events of Nina's daily life therefore reflect the story of the character she takes on as a ballerina, ultimately leading to confusion and as the line between reality and fiction blurs, to apparent instantly. She desires to be perfect and this unattainable desire is slowly eating away at the walls of her psyche because she is pressured by her mother, her dancing director and herself.

Moreover, she realizes that the fit dancer to be Swan Queen is not her, but the other dancer, Lily. It brings Nina to the fear of the second option dancer.

In the end of the story, Nina passes the act perfectly, although she fails the first act precisely she dances as the White Swan. As perfect as the dance, she also succeeds to lose herself and let the characteristics of Black Swan come into her. In Nina's 'perfect' performance, she is briefly shown with black wings, as the symbol of her unity with the Black Swan.

3.1 Nina Sayers' Background

3.1.1 Mother-Daughter Relationship

The analysis of Nina's background is significant in this study since the first scene of the movie, a girl is dancing as beautiful and pure dancer. Then,

another dancer comes, the Sinister man who emerges out of the darkness behind the girl dancer. The scene shows that the girl is a dancer. What happens in her life also comes into her dream. This statement also emphasizes that she is the dancer,

Nina: I had the craziest dream last night. I was dancing White Swan. It was different choreography, though. It was more like the Bolshoi's. It was the prologue when Rothbart casts his spell. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 03:13*).

Nina was born as a dancer, like her mother, Erika who was a dancer although she was not a successful one. Erika's obsession to be a star is inherited to her daughter. Erika is very concerned about the development of her only daughter especially in the ballet and she does not want Nina to make the same mistake as she had ever done before.

Erika : I have a right to be concerned, Nina. You have been staying late so many nights. Rehearsing. I just hope he is not taking advantage, that's all.

Nina : He is not.

Erika : Good. I do not want you making the same mistake I did.

Nina : Thanks.

Erika : Not like that. I just mean as far as my career was concerned. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 55:19*)

This conversation is done to make Nina realize and stay away from Leroy who has a bad reputation according to Erika. She does not want her daughter to choose the wrong way and do the same mistake as she did. However, Nina opposes her mother, she chooses Leroy's side. She thinks Leroy is a brilliant guy, and he is good, not like what people say, although she knows that Beth is kicked out from the company though he still calls Beth as his little princess. In other cases, when Lily mocks Leroy, Nina still stands to defend Leroy and says that Lily has not familiar yet with Leroy. In Nina's eyes, Leroy is a great director

and Leroy is the only guy who is close to Nina and since Nina was chosen as the Swan Queen, Leroy is her place to complain, moan and believe. Nina has never felt so close with a man before. Nina enjoys to be touched by him as can be shown in the scene when Leroy fingered Nina's body to seduce her. It is different when Nina dances together with his dance partner in Swan Lake, David. Nina is also an introvert. This is proven by Nina's attitude which is not close to other dancers.

This is because she thinks that she herself is better than the other dancer so she does not hang out with them. This movie story just shows the proximity between Nina herself and her mother. Her mother knows all her activities, not to protect her, but to ensure that Nina can fulfill her dream job.

Boeree (1996, p. 10) found the following,

The only child is more likely than others to be pampered, with all the ill results we've discussed. After all, the parents of the only child have put all their eggs in one basket, so to speak, and are more likely to take special care – sometimes anxiety-filled care – of their pride and joy. If the parents are abusive, on the other hand, the only child will have to bear that abuse alone.

Satiadarma also states that as the source of somebody's personality, family is the place for learning how to interact, respond and adapt to the community in the lives of the wider society (2001, p. 121). Through the understanding of life values instilled by family members, the ability of a person's perception will be directed specifically into certain fields. Nina also grows with her mother who used to be a ballerina and Nina is given a stimulus in that field. As the only child, Nina only feel close with her mother. Living with her mother, Nina shows the strange

things seen in this movie, a 28 years old girl still keeps the dolls that should owned by children under the age of 18 years old.



(a) (b)

Figure 3.1 The situation in Nina’s bedroom

The element of movie used in this figure 3.1 (a) uses the High Angle to show that Nina is lying on bed with various background of Nina’s dolls. This angle makes these dolls look smaller and not as useful to be disclosed. The figure 3.1(a) represents Nina’s room with butterflies as the wallpaper. Then, the next to the window is a big white rabbit as the symbol of mind control originating from Alice in Wonderland. The second picture, 3.1 (b) is a close-up-shot that is used to show the detail such as emotional face or the information the audience should see.

This image shows the character of Nina who tend to be anxious and worried about many things. As the background of this scene is a music box that winded by Erika every night next to Nina in order to make the little ballerina. This is not prevalent to be done and owned by an adult female career in the world of ballet. Here is seen Erika acts more as a mind-control handler than a mother. She obviously has boundary issues and keeps tight control over all aspects of Nina’s life. Real-life monarch slaves often start their difficult lives as victims of ritual abuse in their

own household. Symbols relating to mind control in Nina's house probably reflect this sad reality, including her pink, childlike bedroom.

The control given by Erika to Nina is the attention to every single thing.

For example when Nina failed the audition in doing the spin of Coda as the key performance of Black Swan, the worried Erika called the company's secretary and asked about Nina's condition. Likewise, when Nina escapes the audition as a Swan Queen, Nina immediately tells her mother by a call about what had just happened. Nina thinks that she has to tell her mother this news even she gets home. This such proximity is then brought Nina to her disgust to her mother. This is shown in the scene when Lily comes to Nina's house to get an apologize. Erika does not tell Nina that someone is looking for, but says no one outside.

Erika : Can I help you? I'm sorry, she is not in.

Nina : Who was it?

Erika : No one.

Nina : Hello?

Lily : Hey

Nina : What are you doing here?

Lyli : I wanted to apologize. You were right, i should not have talked to him about you.

Erika : Sweetheart?

Nina : Give me a second.

Erika : You dinner....

Nina : Mom Please!

Erika : Sweetie, you need to rest. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 00:56:26*).

From this scene, it appears that Erika is over controlling Nina's life, even she does not allow anyone to see Nina in her apartment. It is a wedge performance that shown by a mother to her daughter especially a family living in America. Even when Nina comes home in a state of half-drunk and passes a

curfew that has been established, her mother bombards Nina with questions. Here

Nina begins to ignore her mother as be seen in these dialogues,

Erika : Do you have any idea what time it is?

Nina : Mmm-hmm. Late.

Erika : Where have you been?

Nina : To the moon and back.

Erika : You have been drinking.

Nina : Ding ding ding

Erika : What else have you been doing?

Nina : You want to know their names?

Erika : You need to sleep it off.

Nina : There were two. Tom and Jerry...

Erika : Be quite, Nina!

Nina : I fucked both of them. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 01:06:36*).

This scene clearly shows Nina's indifference to her mother. She becomes a bit wild compared to the former Nina. Previously, she never drunk before and never break the predetermined curfew. However, when it peaked aggravation, Nina can both become increasingly aggressive and does not care about the surroundings especially her mother. At the age of twenty-eight years, Nina requires something called a privacy for herself, something that she never gets.

3.1.2 Nina's Relationship to Other People

"From the sociological point of view, the normal man is an individual who lives in society and whose mode of life is so adapted that society derives a certain benefit from his life-style. From the psychological point of view, he has enough energy and courage to meet the problems and difficulties of life as the come along" (www.trans4mind.com). The problems that often occur in adulthood are related to the friendship, profession, love and marriage. If the relationship between individuals is damaged, then these kinds of problem will arise and make

the sensitivity and interest to the social community will be reduced. When this happens, one can be more selfish in determining the attitude. In this movie case, Nina's relationship with several people present in her life being something important because Nina is too introvert and Nina is a little weird. At her age, Nina only has a close relationship with her mother. When Nina in the dancers' room, Nina does not has conversations like the other dancers who comment on everything. She only says some words when she is spoken to. Nina almost never starts the conversation. Nina feels the other people are not trustworthy other than her mother, so that any perceived of experience, Nina always tells her mother.

Nina feels a threat to her existence when Lily comes to join the company. Nina sees that Lily is so familiar with her fellow dancers eventhough she is a new dancer. This happened especially when the audition of Swan Queen, Lily looks managed to attract Leroy's attention naturally. This is obviously different because Nina had to steal Beth's belongings before meet Leroy individually. It is strengthened by the conversation done by the waiter and Lily,

Waiter : Cheeseburger, extra bloody.

Lily : Mmm, dankeschon.

Waiter : Let me know if that's juicy enough for you.

Lily : Oh, I will.

Waiter : You have enough cheese?

Lily : No, but you do.

Waiter : Enjoy. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 00:58:04).

This chatting happens in a bar. But when a waiter comes with Lily's order, Lily does not seem awkward to start a conversation and joking with the waitress.

This happens in front of Nina and although Nina is there with Lily, she does not have the courage to join the conversation. Nina feels herself invisible. This is

different with Nina, who is always stiff in starting the conversation and to talk to people.

This is related to the Nina's initial conversation with Lily. At that time Nina is just introduced as the replacement for Beth, the prime dancer. The conversation happens in apartment's bathroom.

Lily : Hey, it is you! I dont think we ever officially met. I am Lily.

Nina : Hi, I am Nina.

Lily : Yes, our new Swan Queen. Here, hold this.

Nina : Yeah, sure.

Lily : You must be so existed. Are you freaking out?

Nina : Yeah.

Lily : Oh, I'd be losing my mind.

Nina : I should get back..

Lily : No, no, no, come on, stay. Keep me company.

Nina : Excuse me. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 00:32:31*).

The conversation above shows that Nina is not easy to get along, even with Lily who becomes her friend in dancing company. Nina feels herself in a higher position than the other dancers, so as to respond their conversation, Nina is not interested. As a sociable person, Lily tries to bring herself to Nina, not to compete her, but just be her friend. In this movie, Lily several times show her attention to approach and try to hang out with Nina. Several scenes show that Nina is only hang out with Lily, not the other dancers.

When Nina practices dancing as the Black Swan, Leroy is not satisfied with Nina's movement. Though David is her dancing partner, Nina still treated him as a foreigner,

Leroy : David, can I ask you a question? Honestly, would you fuck that girl?

David : (*Shaking head*)

Leroy : No. No one would. Nina, your dancing is just as frigid. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 00:46:17*)

Nina is required to play the Black Swan with the character as a individual who easily seduce people. The movements should be soft that shown any means to win over the opponent. But in fact, Nina fails to seduce David, her dancing partner when she dances as Black Swan.

3.1.3 Nina's Restricted Life

Nina is a girl with a very strict upbringing from her mother. All the things Nina did have beenacknowledged by Erika and she also helped to organize Nina's life, both in everyday life and her career as a ballerina. This upbringing Nina brought in her every element of her life so instead of Nina that govern her life, but the rules that govern Nina's life. This is apparent in every movement of the dance she does eventhough it was just a daily work. In the audition of Swan Queen, Leroy warns Nina to escape from every control and rules.

Leroy : Come on, not so controlled. Seduce us! Not just the Prince, but the court, the audience, the entire world! The fouettes are like a spider spinning her web. Come on! Attack it! Attact it! (*Black Swan, 2010, min 00:13:25*)

Here, Leroy wants Nina to give all control up especially in the controls and techniques that exist in every movement. As a Black Swan, it is not just dance but also the nature and attitude that should be presented in the Black Swan's personality. Finally Nina fails to dance the key movement. The Coda.

Nina : I just wanted to tell you, I practiced the Coda last night, and I finished.

Leroy : How thrilling for you?

Nina : Well..

Leroy : Okay, Nina, listen. Honestly I do not care about your technique. You should know that by now. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 00:18:59).

It is clear that Leroy does not care about the technique Nina's mastered.

What Leroy needs is a natural Black Swan, not based on the technique. Her dancing is explosive, exudes sex, imprecise but sensual. When Nina and Leroy pay attention to Lily's dancing, Lily keeps on laughing when she makes some mistakes on her dancing. It makes Leroy proud and Nina is jealous.

Leroy also demands the same thing from Nina, so when Leroy asks Nina to forget the control, Leroy wants to see the passion of the Black Swan. The passion itself will appear from the individual, Nina. Nina could not be the fit Black Swan if she can not lose herself as White Swan. Nina also bound by the rules that exist, such as when Lily met Nina in the weight room, Nina was banning Lily to smoke indoor, but Lily is still doing it, she even offers Nina to smoke. Lily thinks that there is no one knows what they do, not if Nina will say nothing about it to anyone. Lily's character is describe as someone whose life is flow and relax. It is contrast with Nina's that is being a person who is limited by the rules and she must live by these rules.

Nina, who lives with her mother in an apartment has a strange habit that she done every night. Erika removes Nina's earrings, then opens a jewelry box sitting on the night stand and drops them inside. Then, a toy ballerina spins to tinny music. It happens every night although Nina is not a teenager anymore.

Erika also helped Nina to strip her dresses and also cut Nina's nails.

According with Adler thinking that the only child has some positive and negative traits that will she takes as long as she lives, Nina also has these traits. As the only child, Nina takes some role on the society but in fact, Nina does not enjoy being in the society. While she is chosen to dance as Swan Queen and realizes that the role should not belong to her, Nina tries to suppress her inferiority feeling and begin to implement her superiority. This superiority feeling brings Nina to set the high standard of perfection. In this case, Nina has an exaggerated feelings of superiority and as the impact, Nina is hard to cooperate with the society that makes Nina does not want to share what she feels.

From the experiences in the process of being perfect, Nina who is pampered of life style tries to inflate her sense of self. Adler (1964, p. 80) states that “pampered people have weak social interest but a strong desire to perpetuate the pampered, parasitic relationship they originally had with one or both of their parents. They expect others to look after them, overprotect them, and satisfy their need”. Therefore Adler argues that the only child has extreme discouragement, indecisiveness, oversensitivity, especially anxiety. Nina also has the same characteristics with what Adler argued. Moreover, Nina’s mother demonstrates a lack of love by doing too much for her and treats her if she is incapable in solving problems. Because of Nina feels pampered and spoiled, Nina develops a pampered style of life.

Nina’s life and its relation to her perception of perfection is clearly seen that Nina’s relationship with her mother gives a big impact to her way of thinking. It also supports by the society around Nina and their relationship. This condition

makes Nina to set the high standard of perfection, not only in her own life but also on her dancing. While Nina dances perfectly, she also wants to be perfect at the characters she dances.

3.2 Perfectionism in Nina's Character

Perfection is something positive, but the perfection would be destructive to oneself or the environment when it becomes larger with no filters. Perfect is a word that means a target or standart set for someone to get something. But when something is felt more and more difficult to achieve, that person will perform a variety of ways so that she can get that perfection. As a dancer, Nina wants to do her job perfectly. When she dances as White Swan with all the characteristics attached to it, she wants to add one more portion, to be a fit Black Swan. It is not easy considering White Swan and Black Swan have very noticeable differences, physically or personality. Carrying out two personalities is not easy. Therefore, Nina feels the needed to exercise vigorously to get the role as Black Swan perfectly.

Leroy : The truth is, when I look at you, all I see is the White Swan. Yes, you are beatiful, fearful, fragile. Ideal casting.

But the Black Swan? It is a hard fucking job to dance both.

Nina : I can dance the Black Swan, too.

Leroy : Really? In four years, every time you dance, I see you obsess getting each and every move perfectly right, but I never see you lose yourself. Never. All discipline for what?

Nina : I want to be perfect

Leroy : Perfection is not just about control. It is also about letting go. Surprise yourself so you can surprise the audience.

Transcendence. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 00:19:53).

For Leroy, sometimes to be perfect is not always just about a form of the result of a certain standard, but also the result of a long personal leave and start a

new personal with the new standard as well. Since Nina is the perfect White Swan, it is very difficult for her to become perfect Black Swan. Leroy advises Nina to defeat the self-image as the White Swan first before stepping into the stage of refinement as the Black Swan.

Nina is feeling inferiority since she knows that she is not the fit Black Swan although she believes that being White Swan is not a problem for her. This condition makes Nina being ambitious to become more advanced and developed in practicing every movement of the Black Swan. Nina's inferiority like this brings Nina to the next stage of development. Boeree (2007, p. 380) explains that "Nietzsche develops a philosophy that considers to will to the power as the most basic motive of human life". The striving of superiority refers to the desire of being better, not only for ourselves, but also over other people. Nina's motivation to get better is essentially based on the desire to be better than Veronica, her rivals. But when she realizes that actually the toughest rival is Lily, she does everything to be better than Lily. Nina's deed is varied, it starts when she tried to be perfect like and steals Beth's stuff like lipstick and a little knife.

From the very beginning, Nina believes that she can only be a perfect Black Swan if she trained hard especially Odile's Coda movement with 32 rounds that felt Nina is very hard to do considering that she fails in the audition as a Black Swan. When she fails the audition, she decides to practice harder. This is supported by Erika's saying that her daughter is very talented and does not deserve rejection as the Swan Queen. One night after the audition, Nina is practicing in her apartment and determining to complete the movement of the

Coda. She practices until too night and because she too focus, she can not control her movements, she is hurt. When she removes her shoe, there is oozing blood in her right big toenail which has split. She does not care about her wound, she continued to spin as the fulfillment of the movement 32 lap of Odile's Coda.

Nina : What happened?

Piano Player : I gotta life, deary. Do not work to hard. It's your big day tomorrow. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 01:18:05).

Although she has made several exercises as the Swan Queen, Nina still feel something is missing in her movements. Leroy's standarts as a Swan Queen has not been fulfilled by her. Until the day before the performance, Nina still forces herself to practice very hard. Leroy asks Nina to go home and take a rest for the big day. But, after the conversation above, Nina does not go straight home, but she is still practicing by herself even without music.

For Nina, being herself is not enough to embody both Black Swan and White Swan. She also tries to follow the footsteps of the predecessor, the Prime dancer of the company, Beth. Nina has her own way to be like Beth, that is to steal Beth's belongings and things if she uses the stuff, she would be perfect as Beth, a perfect standart specified in Leroy. By the time Nina persuades Leroy to select her as the Swan Queen, Nina is wearing lipstick that she took from Beth dresser room. Nina wants Leroy see her as perfect as Beth that had summoned the little princess.

Beth : What are you doing here?

Nina : I am so sorry. I know how it feels now. She is trying to replace me.

Beth : You stole my things?

Nina : I just trying to be perfect, like you.

Beth : Perfect? (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 01:21:05)

In here, Nina admits to Beth that she wants to be perfect as Beth, and therefore she stole some Beth's belongings. Nina thinks by having those stuffs she will receive Leroy's attention as the fit Black Swan as Beth as the little princess.

Leroy : You all had had the chance and the privilege to be enchanted, transported, and even sometimes devastated by the performances of this true artist of our company. She's been a crucial inspiration to my work. A role model to all dancers, and even more than that, a deeply appreciated presence on our stage. You all know who I am talking about. Ladies and gentlemen, Beth Macintyre. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 00:29:51).



Figure 3.2 Nina's action in garbaging the stuffs

By throwing those childhood things, it will be easier for her to unite with Black Swan character, since its characteristics are very contradictory with her.

Moreover she is, too, attached to White Swan characters. As Leroy says to her that being a perfect sometimes has to let the things in personality attached go and then replace it with a new personality. This scene uses Eye Level Shot that makes up mind about what kind of people is being presented. In the figure above, Nina is trashing her dolls into garbage. She knows that a girl in twenty eight is not common to have those kind things. Therefore, those dolls are represented as mother's

control and Nina realizes that this is the time to change into a person with a freedom.

3.2.1 The Hallucination as the Bridge to Perfection

Hallucination is a sensory perception disorder in the absence of external stimuli that can include all sensing systems in which occurs when the individual consciousness. Hallucination may be something that is soothing, but also can threaten the individuals themselves. As written in *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary*(1995, p. 536) "hallucination is the belief that one is seeing or hearing somebody or something when no such person or thing is present" while hallucinate is imagining the hallucination.

Nina Sayers also experiences some hallucination as a bridge to perfection.

On one side the hallucination experienced on Nina's construction which help Nina to find the negative side of life so that she can meet the standarts as the fit Black Swan. But on the other hand, hallucinations experienced by Nina ruined herself. Sometimes she is uncomfortable with the hallucination that she experience. In this movie story, Nina's first hallucination shown in the early minutes, when she is on the train, she sees someone identical to her even every thing she does like when Nina moves a strand of hair out of her eyes, and at that exact moment, the girl in the next car moves the same way. Unnerved, Nina slowly lowers her arm, so does the other girl. Later it is known that the woman is Lily.

3.2.1.1 The Existence of the Double

The hallucinations experienced by Nina bring her to realize the existence of the double. Nina also uses this hallucination as the bridge to find her alter ego.

Since chosen as Swan Queen, Nina realizes that she has to find the dark side of herself to fulfill the requirement her perfection in being Black Swan. The existence of a figure very similar to Nina is very supportive of the hallucination.

The figure is depicted with the other side of Nina's personality. At the initial meeting with the duplicate, it is clear that Nina uses a soft colored clothes while the double use the black clothing. The next encounter occurs when Nina walked and met the pedestrians like her. This time once again Nina realizes that what she was doing, also done by the double. In this stage, the appearance of the double does not give any threat in Nina's life. This second encounter is also marked by the clothing worn where Nina wears muted colors while the double wearing dark clothing. Nina also not yet fully realized that the hallucination is experiencing at the double is the dark part of her personality because the double does not hurt her.

At the 51st minute of the film, the double begins to threaten Nina existence where there are blood droplets and then the double smiles at Nina to insult her. When Nina regains consiousness, the double has gone. But it is not stop there, later Nina realized that there were a part of her body which wounded and bleeding. The smile from the double is the beginning of the existence of the double in threatening Nina's life and seems to indicate that Nina has a dark side that can help her to be perfect as the Swan Queen. If the apereance of the double at the first did not give any impact, Nina begin to feel the pain in her body as the

presence of the double. Not only physical pain, but also the fear she felt. It is the time when Nina tries to hurt herself. This continues with the emergence of the double in the mirror and manages Nina to cut her own finger.

The next emergence, the double starts to touch Nina's body directly. This happens when Nina is home after hanging out with Lily. She thinks that Lily comes home with her. They then perform lesbian scene, when she experiences her first climax ever, something that cannot be done by herself. However, the truth is, Lily never home with Nina. So, actually Nina experiences her very first climax by herself. The conversation below proves that Lily does not come to Nina's apartment.

Lily : Oops. But hey, at least you had a good time, right?

Nina : You put something in my drink.

Lily : Yeah.

Nina : And then you just took off in the morning.

Lily : In the morning?

Nina : Yeah, you slept over.

Lily : Uhm, no. Unless your name is Tom and you had a dick.

(Black Swan, 2010, min 01:12:00)

At this point, the double does not provide a sense of pain but a very enjoyable thing for Nina although this brings a confusion for Nina. With the advent of the double, Nina admits that she has beaten the characteristics of the White Swan in her thus she is ready to be like Black Swan with a little charmer and the nature of evil. Nina allows these properties to enter herself. After she lets the properties of Black Swan entered her, she begins to feel and does negative points. For example, as the effect she has a trouble with her mother and begins to oppose to her.

The next appearance of the double occurs when Nina tries to be wore as the Swan Queen in the room surrounded by mirrors. The mirror behind her creates an infinite array of reflection. Then, she hears a sharp rustle like someone scratching. When she looks at the mirror, her reflection stares back. Behind the first reflection, another Nina has her arm behind her back, like she is scratching her shoulder. But when Nina leans to get a better look, the reflection has returned to normal.



Figure 3.3 The existence of the double

The next appearance of the double brings Nina to the next realization about her thought upon Lily's position regarding Swan Lake role. Nina initially feels that Veronica deserves its place to dance the Swan Lake because Veronica is the first dancer chosen by Leroy to portray the role of Swan Lake and Veronica is also like a major rival of Nina. But what happened now is that Nina realizes that the person who wants the role as the Swan Queen is actually Lily.

Lily : Hey, Thomas sent me.

Costumer : Yeah, you need to get you measured for your Swan Queen costume.

Nina : What is she doing here?

Lily : He made me your alternate. Just in case...

Nina : Thomas! She is trying to replace me.

Leroy : What is going on?

Nina : Lyli. You made her my alternate.

Leroy : There is always an alternate, you know that. Lily is the best choice.

Nina : She wants my role.

Leroy : Every dancer in the world wants your role.

Nina : No, she is different. She is after me. She is trying to replace me. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 01:16:27*)

From the movement she realizes that she does lesbian activities by herself, not with Lily, she automatically keeps distance from Lily, since she fears that Lily will take her role as the Swan Queen. The next day, Nina finds out that Lily perform the Swan Queen dance in a training session. At that time Nina wakes up late after reaching her first climax. Before that, she finds that Leroy admires Lily on her movements which so graceful and natural. This is different with Nina who is bound to the standard. Therefore, when Lily is appointed to be an alternative for Nina, Nina alleges that Lily is deliberately making efforts to get the role.



Figure 3.4 The Existence of the double

A day before the show, the presence of the double becomes more and more intense. Nina is certainly very disturbed by this condition and starts to fear of the existence of the double. The double emerges Nina in a part of mirror when she is practicing hard alone and then the double comes again in the different part of the mirror when she is afraid of it. The next, not too long, the double appears again, but this time not in mirror. The double comes when Nina saw Lily makes

out with Leroy. Nina sees Lily's face change into her face. Nina is scared and run of the instantly turns into the double. Figure 3.4 (a) shows Nina's movements are not followed by Nina in the mirror. This makes Nina afraid and worried since she is alone in the practicing room. She realizes that her double is there with her and she is afraid of it. The figure 3.4 (b) shows Nina's mimic that afraid of what just happened to her. But the double still exists in other side of mirror and back to Nina. In the picture 3.4 (b) the audience can distinguish the differences of Nina's mimic and the double's. While Nina is a pure girl and worried of many things, the double shows her cynical and harsh mimic. These characteristics that is looked for by Nina to be a perfect Swan Queen in her own standard.

After those scary experiences, Nina eventually intends to return Beth's belongings that she had stolen, one of the stuffs is a small knife. This time the double shows up as Beth and jabbing a knife into her cheek, and then saying "I am not perfect" (Black Swan, 2010, min 01:21:34). It does not end up there, the double also continues to haunt Nina even when Nina is at home. It is considered the most terrifying and the most meaningful in the metamorphosis when the double starts to get into her and manifests themselves in one. So, they are not the two different separated things, but one. It is characterized by the growth of tiny black tips like sea urchin on her back. She then falls because her knees snap.

The climax of the resemblance to Nina is on the a moment before the beginning of third act. Nina discovers that Lily is in her room, preparing to replace Nina in the role of Black Swan. Lily says that it is her time to dance as Black Swan. Nina's anger to Lily is peaked. She attacks Lily and then stuck a

piece of glass to Lily's stomach. However, it is too late to realize that Lily's face turns into her face. This is because the person in her room is not Lily, but the double. The body is down and it changes into Lily again. But, in this climax, Nina feels like she has a new life and new personality. This condition makes her successes to dance as Black Swan, perfectly.

3.2.1.2 Injuring Her Body to Achieve Perfection

Nina wants to be a fit Swan Queen in the role as the main character in the latest production of the company, Swan Lake. As the refinement in the role, Nina chooses to take advantage of her hallucination as the bridge in the searching of the natural characteristics of the Black Swan, so that she can both fit into Swan Queen accordance with her own standard. Basically, Leroy has a standard to be achieved by Nina. Consequently, she has to experience some things that makes her feel fear, pain and pleasure. In the standards fulfillment process, it is not uncommon that Nina has to experience things that hurt her like lesions on her body. In some instance physically, Nina must feel the hurt like when she fails the audition, in the evening she has to practice very hard and the practice leads her to hurt her leg. However, the hallucination also helps her in achieving perfection in Nina's version, though only a hallucination she has to feel the hurt and pain.

The hallucination makes her scratch her body frequently. Sometimes, Nina is not aware of when and how the wound comes. At minute 01:16:10, Nina does realize that the individual who is scratching is the double. Nina sees the mirror when she is measuring the costume to be wore as the Black Swan. When she was alone, the double in the mirror is scratching the shoulder.

The first wound happens when Nina is in bathroom to wash her finger because she sees her finger is bleeding. But when she checks her finger, there is no blood, but there is a hangnail. Then, Nina takes hold of the small flap and tries to yank it off. Accidentally, she tears a strip of skin from the nail to her second knuckle. So, Nina quickly balls up the peeled skin and throws it away. Then she realizes that her finger is just fine. There is no wound there although Nina can feel the pain.

The next wound is found by Nina when submerges herself under the water. The double comes again and staring down at her. When Nina opens her eyes, the double has gone. But the other thing happens, her finger is hurt. Nina notices some water dropping of her finger, onto the lip of the tub. Because of it, Nina worries and she examines her fingernails and she discovers blood and bits of skin. Later, Nina checks herself in the mirror and finds her shoulder is streaked with deep scratches. Nina grabs a pair of a little scissors from the cabinet and starts trimming her fingernails. But when she looks up at the mirror and sees her reflection snip off the tip of her index finger. Nina gasps and drops the scissors, and two of her fingers are bleeding.

The greatest pain she feels is when she finds out that her stomach is coated with red liquid. It starts to soak through the costume, creating a faint red spot and Nina discovers a stab wound in her own stomach. In this time, it will be difficult to distinguish Nina and the double because they become one. So, when Nina thinks that she murders the double, she hurtsherself and what happens to the double also happens to her.

Leroy : We all know the story: virginal girl, pure and sweet, trapped in the body of a swan. She desires freedom, but only the true love can break the spell. Her wish is granted in the form of a prince. But before he can declare his love, her lustful twin, the Black Swan, tricks and seduces him. Devastated, the White Swan leaps of a cliff, killing herself. But, in death, finds freedom. (*Black Swan*, 2010, min 00:08:24)

Leroy's stated above tells the general plot of the story *Swan Lake* that has to be danced by Nina. From here Nina captures that the White Swan will commit suicide in the end. Nina probably thinks that she should kill the characters of White Swan which have been attached to her. Whether it is coincidence or not, the plot of *Swan Queen* is similar with Nina's life story. She needs privacy to reach her freedom. So, when the *Swan Queen* must end in death, Nina positioned herself as White Swan who is longing for freedom.

3.2.2 Sexual Activity

Sexual activity become the important stage in reaching Nina's perfection to be Black Swan since the Black Swan's characteristics are erotic, seduce, voluptuous. Therefore, in order to be Black Swan, she has to stop being innocent woman. But before having all this sex experience, Nina also has a quite serious sex problem with her mother. This is indicated in the minutes 37:25 in this movie,



Figure 3.5 The Unhealthy Sexual Familiarity

The picture above shows Nina's mother forcibly undressing her adult daughter. This scene depicts to Nina's total submission to her mother and also hints to unhealthy sexual familiarity between the two. This scene takes picture of almost the whole body of the character to give info to the audiences about what they do. In this scene, Nina ignores her mother to help her. A woman in Nina's age should not accept the act like that and should allow Nina to take off her own clothes. But the things like seem to occur naturally in that small family. This is seen when Nina said that she can release her own dress, Erika does not care. Erika just smiles and still helps Nina off the dress. Although it happens, Nina can not do a protest to her mother, she just let it be.

In order to become a Black Swan, Nina must be able to be somewhat comfortable with sex and even enjoy it. So, Leroy gives Nina homework to touch herself.

Leroy : So, do you have a boyfriend?

Nina : No...

Leroy :Have you had many in the past?

Nina : A few. But no one serious.

Leroy : You're not a virgin, are you? So, there is nothing to be embarrassed about. And you enjoy making love?

Nina : Excuse me?

Leroy : Come on, sex. Do you enjoy it? We need to be able to talk about.

Nina : Okay.

Leroy : I havegot a little homework assignment for you. Go home and touch yourself. Live a little. (*Black Swan, 2010, min 00:35:39*)

At first, Nina does not enjoy having a conversation about sex. It is indicated in Nina's answers above. She is shy to talk about sex. But in Leroy's opinion, talking about sex is proper for establishing Black Swan's characters.

Although she is shy, Nina still does what Leroy asked to do as homework. The next day in, Nina begins to touch her own body. But she fails because there is Erika in her room.

The other sexual activity that done by Nina is happened when Nina lies in the bathtub. This action also fails because Nina cannot enjoy the solitude and she was too nervous to do this. So far, it still seems that Nina is still hesitant to touch herself. Because of these failures, Nina realizes that she needs a partner and finally Leroy gives her a little help. Leroy helps Nina to reach the climax but then he inadvertently stopped because Leroy touch Nina's body to seduce her only to help Nina to be able to seduce her partner in Swan Lake dancing. This makes Nina disappointed because Leroy does not continue his action.

Finally she is successful to have orgasm when she performs lesbian scenes. Although she knows that Lily actually is not there to have those actions, Nina does not too care about it because she gets what she wants and what she needs to fulfill her standard in Black Swan perfection. Nina realizes that the scenes of lesbian bring her into the highest point to get her pleasure in sex. This sexual activity become a bridge to find the other characteristics of Black Swan, to seduce other people.

3.2.3 Destruction as the Perfection

According to Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale, there are three aspects of perfectionist. And in this case, Nina wants to be valued and accepted as a person and a dancer by the society she lives. In manner to be a perfectionist,

Nina set a high standard than others and this standard brings her to the conflict with her family and society.

In the end, White Swan has to commit suicide to find the true freedom.

Nina herself also looks for the freedom. Not only freedom about love, but also the other aspects of her life such as the relationship with others, freedom from the restricted and unhealthy family maintenance. Nina knows that if she want the freedom, she has to sacrifice something, as old proverb said; no pain no gain. To get something, people have to lose something too. In this case, Nina has to eliminate the White Swan's characteristics and allows the Black Swan's to come to her, though she has to harm herself.

When Nina decides to allow Black Swan into her, she has to sacrifice her relationship with her mother, even bringing her into quarrel with her mother. For more than 20 years, Erika becomes the closest friend of Nina, a place for Nina to devote all her heart and as a biggest supporter in achieving Nina's career as a ballerina. But Nina's ambition in achieving a perfect Swan Queen is bringing Nina into a big problem, a fight with her mother.

Erika : This role is destroying you.

Nina : Move!

Erika : What happened to my sweet girl?

Nina : She is gone.

Erika : You can't handle it!

Nina : I can't? I am the fucking Swan Queen! You never even got out of the corps.

Erika : You fucking ungrateful! (*Black Swan, 2010, min 01:25:31*)

From the conversation above, it can be seen that Erika had noticed something different in her daughter. Nina pushes her mother and makes her fall.

Nina who never be harsh before, even dare to push her mother and impolitely talks to her. Her obsession toward Swan Queen's role turns her to uncontrolled person. She forgets that perfection is not only from Nina herself but also from the surroundings. What happens between her and her mother is the example.

Besides that, Nina also destroys herself with all hallucinations. As the result, she has to accept all the consequences including injuring herself, even kill herself. Since she is an introvert, she does not allow anyone to know her condition, she let other people to notice by themselves.

By injuring herself, Nina becomes closer to acquire Black Swan's characters as well as perfection. Injuring herself means killing White Swan characters, since they are similar with Nina's characters. This shows that she has metamorphosed into Black Swan. Nina also has managed to become perfect as White Swan as told at the end of the story the White Swan must commit suicide to get freedom, so was Nina who craves freedom in her life. After a very hard struggle in recent days, Nina eventually close them all perfectly. She feels and enjoys every pain and pleasure as the failure by the process of becoming perfect.

Nina : I felt it.

Leroy : What?

Nina : I felt perfect. I was perfect (*Black Swan*, 2010, 01:41:47).

This conversation happens when Leroy and other dancers realize that Nina's stomach is bleeding. Nina is lying on the mat after she falls down to close the Swan Lake show. In the previous conversation, when Nina meets Leroy to ask a position as Swan Queen, Nina and Leroy is talking about the perfection. And

this condition realizes Leroy that Nina is serious to be the perfect one then Leroy and the others see that Nina is.

Slosar (1999) finds the facts that most people commit suicide are the great people who have succeeded on their career. So is Nina who already becomes a success principle dancer and this situation can be seen when the audiences of the show give her appreciate. But, perfection for Nina is achieving what she has set as her standard. Nina leaves her role as White Swan and practice harder to be the perfect Black Swan because she knows that she is the perfect White Swan. But, being perfect in White Swan role is not enough, and she has to be able to dance Black Swan perfectly. Being perfect as Swan Queen means that she needs to be perfect as both Black and White Swan. This condition brings Nina to the reality that her whole life is about White Swan and she needs to metamorphose to Black Swan and kills the characteristics of White Swan. At the end of the movie, Nina drives a part of broken glass into her double's stomach. This means drives it into her own because Nina unites with the double. By this act, Nina feels perfect as Swan Queen because now she is perfect Black Swan and White Swan.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The followings are the conclusion and suggestion dealing with the finding of the research.

4.1 Conclusion

Nina Sayers, the main character of Black Swan the movie, has a problem in maintaining her individual psychology which affects in her daily life. She has a serious problem with her mother because her mother is overprotective. Because Nina is an introvert person, she is rarely involved in a conversation with other dancers. Although in her mother's control, as the only child, Nina want to be the prime than others. This condition makes Nina to keep striving to be perfect and be the best then the other dancer.

The most striking factor of Nina's life is that she is too attached to the rules. It is reflected on the way she dances. Her dancing techniques are excellent. However dancing is not just about control and technique, but also representing the naturalness of the character who are brought into the dance. But it is not easy to change what she had been holding so far. Therefore, she must let some things go, some things that bound and locked her in a personality which is identical with the White Swan. This is contrast with the Swan Queen in which Nina must be able to play both White and Black Swan. Dancing as Black Swan means having to give everything up that connects to White Swan, because professional dancers should animate their role, even the roles are contradictive with their personality.

Nina uses the hallucination she had as a bridge in releasing characteristics of White Swan and let the characteristics of Black Swan into her. This process is not easy to be passed because Nina had to feel a variety of things such as pleasure, confusion and ultimately pain. Nina has to enjoy the pain she experiences, because she finally realizes that with the pain, she will achieve the perfection she expected.

Nina's sexual activity is also seen as significant stage in achieving perfection. By doing sexual activities, it means that she releases her White Swan's characteristics – quite, shy, and innocent – and allows the Black Swan's characteristics into her. It is a long process since she is not familiar with sexual activity. She initiates the sexual activity by touching herself but it always failed. Finally, by the help of someone, Lily in her hallucination in lesbian scene, she reaches her very first climax. The climax itself also represents the success of finding the Black Swan characteristics which easily to seduce people.

4.2 Suggestion

For the further researchers who are interested in the writer's study or those who want to make a study with the similar approach or object as the writer's, here are some several suggestion:

1. The further researchers who are interested in analyzing an object using individual psychology, could choose Adler's theories for example perfectionism and its relation to human's mind.
2. The further researchers could analyze the movie with different theory or conception, such as deconstruction theory by Jacques Derrida or semiotics

approach by Barthes. By analyzing the movie, there are many interpretations found because this movie has unique aspects to further highlight.



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APPENDIX

Appendix 1



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No.	Tanggal	Materi	Pembimbing	Paraf
1.	07 Maret 2011	Pengajuan dan persetujuan judul skripsi	Pembimbing I	
2.	07 Maret 2011	Pengajuan dan persetujuan judul skripsi	Pembimbing II	
3.	17 Maret 2011	Pengajuan bab I	Pembimbing I	
4.	17 Maret 2011	Pengajuan bab I	Pembimbing II	
5.	22 Maret 2011	Perbaikan bab I	Pembimbing II	
6.	25 Maret 2011	Perbaikan bab I	Pembimbing I	
7.	19 April 2011	Pengajuan bab II	Pembimbing I	
8.	19 April 2011	Pengajuan bab II	Pembimbing II	
9.	29 April 2011	Perbaikan bab II	Pembimbing II	
10.	30 Mei 2011	Perbaikan bab I dan II	Pembimbing I	
11.	10 Juli 2011	Perbaikan bab I dan II	Pembimbing II	
12.	22 Juli 2011	Seminar proposal	Pembimbing I	
13.	22 Juli 2011	Seminar proposal	Pembimbing II	
14.	29 Juli 2011	Perbaikan seminar proposal	Pembimbing I	
15.	3 Agustus 2011	Perbaikan seminar proposal	Pembimbing II	

16.	3 Oktober 2011	Pengajuan bab III dan IV	Pembimbing I
17.	4 November 2011	Perbaikan bab IV	Pembimbing I
18.	10 Desember 2011	Perbaikan bab IV	Pembimbing I
19.	5 Januari 2012	Perbaikan bab III dan IV	Pembimbing I
20.	5 Januari 2012	Pengajuan bab I-IV	Pembimbing II
21.	24 Januari 2012	Perbaikan bab I-IV	Pembimbing I
22.	06 Februari 2012	Seminar hasil skripsi	Pembimbing I
23.	06 Februari 2012	Seminar hasil skripsi	Pembimbing II
24.	07 Februari 2012	Konsultasi hasil skripsi	Penguji II
25.	07 Februari 2012	Konsultasi hasil skripsi	Penguji I
26.	07 Februari 2012	Konsultasi hasil skripsi	Pembimbing II
27.	07 Februari 2012	Konsultasi hasil skripsi	Pembimbing I
28.	09 Februari 2012	Ujian skripsi	Pembimbing I
29.	09 Februari 2012	Ujian skripsi	Pembimbing II
30.	10 Februari 2012	Acc skripsi	Penguji I
31.	13 Februari 2012	Acc skripsi	Penguji II
32.	14 Februari 2012	Acc skripsi	Pembimbing I
33.	14 Februari 2012	Acc skripsi	Pembimbing II

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