



The Primary Character In Rainbow Rowell's Fangirl: A Psychoanalytic Study

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Abstract This article investigates Rainbow Rowell's "Fangirl" through the lens of psychoanalysis. It examines how Cath Avery, the protagonist, navigates life and university as an introvert with anxiety. The analysis employs Carl Jung's analytical psychology and Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory to explore Cath's personality and challenges. The study considers both internal and external factors influencing Cath's introversion, emphasizing her journey towards confronting and overcoming it.

Key words: psychoanalysis-Sigmund Freud-Carl Jung-personality-introvert-internal external factor-anxiety.

INTRODUCTION:

Rainbow Rowell's novel Fangirl delves into the complex world of its protagonist, Cather Avery, who struggles with deep anxiety and trauma from her mother's childhood abandonment. This rejection casts a long shadow over Cath's life, manifesting in fears of betrayal, intimacy and rejection, and contributing to her struggle with self-esteem. To deal with these psychological challenges, Cath uses defense mechanisms, especially sublimation, to channel her emotions into creative channels, especially her passion for writing. The purpose of this psychoanalytic study is to explore Cath's character through both Freudian and Jungian theories of the a person Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic framework provides insight into Cath's unconscious mind, defense mechanisms, and the complex interplay of her id, ego, and superego. Carl Jung's analytical psychology, on the other hand, offers a perspective on Cath's collective unconscious, archetypes, and journey to individuation. This study attempts to unravel her complexities by examining Cath's character through Freudian and Jungian theories. psyche, sheds light on his coping mechanisms and reveals the deep influence of past experiences on his current behavior and inner world.

THE FREUDIAN LENS:

Freudian concepts applied to Cathy in Rainbow Rowell's novel Fangirl include an analysis of her identification, self, and superego, which sheds light on her unconscious desires, defense mechanisms, and internal conflicts. Cath's ID, as the most basic part of her personality, represents her basic needs and unconscious desires. The ego, acting as a conscious mediator, guides Cath's perception of reality and coping strategies such as sublimation to manage her anxiety and trauma. In addition, Cath's superego embodies internalized morals and social norms that influence her decision-making and behavior, reflecting the interaction between her individual psyche and external influences.

THE JUNGIAN PERSPECTIVE:

In Rainbow Rowell's novel Fangirl, the Jungian concepts applied to Cath focus on her introverted personality and the struggles she faces with socialization and self-acceptance. Analysing Cath using Carl Gustav Jung's theory of analytical psychology reveals how her introverted nature affects her interactions with others, discomfort and challenges in social settings. External factors contributing to Kath's introversion, such as her parents' divorce, are explored, highlighting how her internal conflicts manifest as feelings of inferiority and difficulties in her social life...

SYNTHESIS OF FREUDIAN AND JUNGIAN APPROACHES:

Character Motivations and Desires: Freud's focus on unconscious desires and Jung's exploration of archetypal patterns could shape the characters' motivations and conflicts. For example, the protagonist might grapple with conflicting

desires rooted in childhood experiences (Freudian) while also embodying archetypal roles within the fandom community (Jungian).

Symbolism and Imagery: Jung's emphasis on symbols and collective unconscious could be reflected in the novel's symbolism, such as recurring motifs within the fandom culture that hold deeper, universal meanings. Freudian symbols like dreams and slips of the tongue could also be used to reveal hidden desires and conflicts

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, looking at the protagonist of Rainbow Rowell's Fangirl through Jungian and Freudian concepts provides a nuanced understanding of her psyche, relationships, and journey of self-discovery. Jungian ideas of the persona, the shadow, and individuation complement Freudian concepts of defense mechanisms, unconscious desires, and psychological conflict, providing a rich framework for exploring Cath's character and story arc. Through this analysis, we gain a deeper understanding of the universal themes of identity formation, creativity, and personal growth presented in the novel.

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