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Neurotic Anxiety in the Novel Tafsil Tsanawi: A Psychoanalytic Perspective Based on Sigmund Freud

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Abstract

The conflict experienced by the Palestinian people since the Nakba has left a psychological impact reflected in literature. This study examines how Adania Shibli represents the neurotic anxiety of a Palestinian female protagonist in the novel Tafsil Tsanawi (Minor Detail), reflecting the condition of a society living under post-Nakba occupation. Primary data consists of narrative excerpts depicting the protagonist's experience of the persistent threat of occupation, while secondary data is drawn from works on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis and the psychology of literature specifically regarding neurotic anxiety. Employing a qualitative approach grounded in psychoanalytic literary criticism and close reading techniques, the study classifies excerpts based on three criteria derived from Freud's concept of neurotic anxiety (1926): the persistence of the threat, ego longing, and the id-reality conflict. The findings reveal that Shibli represents neurotic anxiety not as an isolated psychological condition, but as the result of an interplay between external reality pressures and the protagonist's internal conflicts. This is consistently portrayed through recurring somatic symptoms and self-driven impulses, depicting anxiety as a dynamic psychological process that never reaches true resolution. The novel illustrates a scenario in which, contrary to its typical role of assisting the ego in repressing id impulses, the superego instead supports the protagonist's id impulses, thereby placing the ego under immense pressure. This finding contributes to expanding the application of Freud's theory of neurotic anxiety within literary studies by highlighting this alignment between the protagonist's id and superego.

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INTRODUCTION

The protracted conflict between Palestine and Israel has had consequences that are not only political and humanitarian but also psychological. For Palestinians, living under constant occupation, restricted freedom of movement, and the threat of violence has made anxiety an inseparable part of their daily lives. This persistent situation not only shapes how individuals perceive the reality around them but also fosters a psychological state characterized by fear, unease, and apprehension regarding various potential threats.

This situation not only impacts the real lives of Palestinians but also serves as a significant theme frequently represented in literature. Through characters, plot, and various narrative elements, literary works portray the psychological dynamics of individuals living amidst constant threats. In literary studies, the anxiety experienced by characters often functions as a narrative device allowing

authors to reveal inner conflicts while simultaneously exposing the broader social, political, and historical forces that shape those conflicts (Nur'aini, 2023; Wildaniyah, 2022). Freud (1926) characterizes this as neurotic anxiety an anxiety arising from unconscious conflict when a character's ego is unable to manage the pressures imposed by external reality. This psychological state is often depicted in literature through characters exhibiting persistent, seemingly causeless agitation, reflecting inner turmoil rooted in unconscious drives (Cahyani, 2018). Furthermore, a character's destructive behavior can be understood as a manifestation of unresolved psychological conflict a condition that can give rise to neurotic anxiety. Thus, this type of anxiety is not an isolated affective state; rather, its root causes are deeply intertwined with the character's life experiences, making it a fitting lens through which to interpret literary works born of contexts involving ongoing historical trauma, such as Shibli's portrayal of Palestinian life in the post-Nakba era (Dewi, 2022).

Literary works serve not only as a medium for artistic expression but also as a vehicle for authors to articulate intellectual reflections and psychological experiences shaped by their surrounding social realities. This function is particularly evident in Arabic literature specifically Palestinian literature which frequently portrays the psychological experiences of a society enduring protracted conflict. The 1948 Nakba and its aftermath characterized by violence, military occupation, and socio-political instability have served as a wellspring of inspiration for many Palestinian authors seeking to depict the lives and psychological states of their people (Istikhomah, 2024; Firdaus et al., 2020; Habsy et al., 2024). One author who addresses this reality is Adania Shibli in her novel *Tafsil Tsanawi* (Minor Detail); the work has garnered her widespread acclaim while simultaneously representing the psychological experiences of Palestinians living under occupation (Farizi, 2024; Waslam, 2017).

Adania Shibli's novel *Tafsil Tsanawi* (Minor Detail) was published in 2017. The narrative is divided into two parts set in different time periods, yet a common thread connects them. Shibli portrays the neurotic anxiety of a Palestinian female protagonist as a manifestation of the enduring impact of post-Nakba violence. The violence against a Bedouin girl recounted in the novel's first part does not remain merely a historical event from 1949; instead, it continues to loom over the life of the contemporary Palestinian protagonist (Shibli, 2017). This lingering impact is revealed through the protagonist's psychological state: she becomes obsessed with retracing the details of the violent incident she discovered in a newspaper. This obsession drives her to transgress the boundaries imposed by the occupation, ensuring that every step of her quest is accompanied by a sense of insecurity and a constant feeling of threat. From a Freudian psychoanalytic perspective, this condition exemplifies neurotic anxiety arising from relentless external pressure, to the point where the ego is no longer capable of contending with reality (Freud, 1926). Thus, the neurotic anxiety experienced by the protagonist is not framed as a merely personal or individual psychological issue; rather, it serves as a representation of the ongoing legacy of post-Nakba violence that continues to shape the lived experience of Palestinians to this day.

Several studies have examined neurotic anxiety in literary works, including modern Arabic literature. For instance, research by Kurniawati (2024), Edfanda et al., (2021), and Nikmah (2022) demonstrates that neurotic anxiety in Arabic literature represents not only the inner conflicts of individuals but also reflects the collective experiences of a society living under social and political pressure. These studies affirm that neurotic anxiety serves as a representation of collective suffering as well as a form of response to oppression. The findings indicate that a psychoanalytic approach can not only explain the dynamics of a character's psychological anxiety but also reveal

the connection between psychological experiences and the underlying social reality. Meanwhile, the novel Tafsil Tsanawi by Adania Shibli has been analyzed from various perspectives, including the representation of the Palestinian conflict, collective trauma, colonialism, historical erasure, alienation, and the various forms of violence experienced by the Palestinian people. For example, Nashef (2019) demonstrates that Shibli's works represent collective wounds resulting from colonialism and systemic oppression through narrative strategies that emphasize silence, alienation, and the silencing of victims' voices. While these studies show that *Tafsil Tsanawi* is widely interpreted as a narrative concerning the trauma and collective experience of the Palestinian people, discussions have largely centered on ideological, historical, and symbolic aspects.

Based on this review, the research gap addressed in this study stems from two primary limitations in existing scholarship. First, studies on neurotic anxiety in Arabic literature remain limited in scope: Kurniawati (2024) and Nikmah (2022) each analyze anxiety within poetry, identifying it through isolated verses rather than tracing its development across a sustained narrative, while Edfanda et al. (2021), although examining a novel, classify anxiety collectively across multiple characters rather than within a single protagonist's psychological development. These studies therefore leave relatively unexplored the representation of neurotic anxiety as a sustained psychological experience within a specific sociopolitical context, particularly the context of Palestinian occupation depicted in *Tafsil Tsanawi*. Second, studies specifically examining *Tafsil Tsanawi*, such as Nashef (2019), have been theoretically and methodologically limited, tending to focus on postcolonial frameworks and collective trauma while failing to deeply examine the representation of psychological experience through a Freudian psychoanalytic lens at the level of narrative detail. This study aims to bridge these gaps by analyzing Tafsil Tsanawi using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic approach, thereby demonstrating how Adania Shibli constructs neurotic anxiety as a representation of the violence following the Nakba violence that continues to shape the lives of the Palestinian female characters depicted in the novel. In doing so, the study offers a novel contribution by linking contextual and theoretical aspects previously unexplored in the literature, thereby underscoring its academic significance.

Addressing this gap, this study examines how Adania Shibli represents neurotic anxiety as a consequence of the enduring violence following the Nakba in the novel Tafsil Tsanawi. To this end, the study analyzes the psychological manifestations of the Palestinian female characters through the lens of Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, aiming to reveal how their psychological experiences represent the lingering impact of violence that continues to shape Palestinian life to this day.

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative method utilizing a psychoanalytic literary criticism approach a mode of reading literary works that applies psychological theory to understand the characters' psychological states (Ratna, 2021). The object of study is the novel *Tafsil Tsanawi* by Adania Shibli, analyzed via the Indonesian translation by Zulfah Nur Halimah, published by Benteng Pustaka in 2024. This research is a library based study; the text of *Tafsil Tsanawi* serves as the primary data source, while secondary sources include works on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis and the psychology of literature, as well as scholarly articles and prior research relevant to the study's focus. The researcher acts as the primary research instrument (human instrument). Data were collected using the close reading technique involving repeated, intensive reading of the entire text to identify passages depicting a Palestinian woman facing the threat of persistent occupation, along with her psychological and physical responses (Darmalaksana, 2020).

The identified excerpts were subsequently classified based on three criteria derived from Freud's (1926) concept of neurotic anxiety: first, whether the danger faced by the character was continuous and recurring rather than momentary; second, ego overwhelm specifically, whether the character's response exceeded the objective demands of the situation, manifesting as a psychosomatic or excessive reaction; and third, regarding the conflict between the id and the ego, whether the character's anxiety stemmed not only from external danger but also from internal drives that compelled them to approach, rather than avoid, that danger. An excerpt was classified as a representation of neurotic anxiety only if it met all three criteria simultaneously. Subsequently, an interpretive analysis was conducted on each classified excerpt to explain how the conflict between the character's internal drives and the external reality of the occupation generated their neurotic anxiety including the alignment between id drives and morally nuanced obligations found in the data before finally synthesizing the findings to draw conclusions regarding the overall narrative construction of neurotic anxiety in the novel, in relation to the research questions and Freud's theoretical framework.

Data validity in this study was maintained through two methods. First, theoretical triangulation ensuring that every data interpretation was consistently linked to the established Freudian theoretical framework rather than relying merely on the researcher's subjective interpretation. Second, peer debriefing (Lincoln, 1985), a process of verifying the researcher's interpretations with the supervisory team to ensure consistency and minimize potential bias in data analysis. Furthermore, every interpretation was substantiated by direct textual excerpts from the novel and references to prior research, ensuring the findings did not rest solely on opinion.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The findings of this study indicate that Shibli constructs this representation gradually through a continuous sequence of narrative events. Rather than presenting the character's anxiety as an isolated incident, Shibli frames it as a process that evolves from the character's daily life under occupation, moves toward a specific triggering event, proceeds to the character's psychological and physical responses, and culminates in the efforts made to cope with the situation. This sequence comprises four narrative elements that appear successively throughout the novel, as outlined below.

1. The Condition of Occupation as an External Reality

In the second part of the novel *Tafsil Tsanawi*, Shibli portrays the daily lives of Palestinian women unfolding amidst the conditions of occupation. The narrative depicts various aspects of everyday life overshadowed by restrictions on movement ranging from travel routes that must be adjusted to account for checkpoints to the constant vigilance required when moving from one place to another. Shibli consistently establishes this atmosphere from the very beginning of the second part, creating a backdrop that frames all the events the protagonist experiences throughout this section, as illustrated in the following excerpt.

> "There are many boundaries here that must be heeded and observed if one wishes to avoid facing the consequences and wants to live a peaceful life " (Shibli, 2024, p. 55).

Shibli illustrates the tangible nature of these restrictions through a scene depicting the protagonist's journey, specifically when the bus she is riding is stopped by the military en route. Military personnel then inspect the passengers one by one before the bus is permitted to continue its journey. (Shibli, 2017 hal. 56). Amidst the daily life shaped by these circumstances, the story shifts toward a pivotal moment: the protagonist reads an old newspaper article reporting an act of violence

against a Bedouin girl in 1949 exactly one year after the Nakba. What captures the protagonist's attention is not merely the details of the incident itself, but the date of the event, which coincides precisely with their own birthday, as illustrated in the following excerpt.

> "The place where I came across a piece of news that caught my attention because of the details of the date of the incident… The incident happened one morning, exactly a quarter of a century ago, exactly on my birthday. " (Shibli, 2024, p. 60).

Following the discovery of the news, the subsequent narrative depicts the character weighing the steps they are about to take.

2. Considerations and Decisions by Key Figures to Continue Seeking Information on Violence

Upon encountering the news, the protagonist expresses an interest in traveling to the Negev region to investigate the incident further. This intention is accompanied by the protagonist's reflection on the reality of the occupation a factor weighed prior to departure. Furthermore, the narrative reveals the protagonist's sense of guilt at the prospect of not undertaking the journey, given that the victim of the reported incident was a Bedouin girl who was also part of Palestinian society. This is evident in the novel's narrative as the protagonist grapples with uncertainty before ultimately deciding to pursue the investigation.

In the novel, Shibli portrays the protagonist's interest in the news as stemming from a chronological coincidence: the date of the murder coincided with the protagonist's own date of birth. The narrative further emphasizes that what captivated the protagonist was the tragic detail of a killing that occurred exactly a quarter of a century before their birth. It is this unique date that sparks the protagonist's deep interest in tracing information regarding past violence in the Negev region, as reflected in the following excerpt:

> " I cannot rule out the possibility of a direct connection or a hidden link between the two events " (Shibli, 2024, p. 63).

However, this spontaneous attraction was soon followed by hesitation and intense reflection regarding the perilous conditions of the occupation. The dangerous external reality drove the character to struggle to suppress and stifle the powerful desire that had already taken root within. He attempted to rationalize the situation by convincing himself that the matching dates were most likely just a meaningless coincidence, as illustrated in the following excerpt:

> "At the same time, I quickly realized that my interest in the event specifically the small detail of the date indicated that I had once again crossed a line. Consequently, ever since that realization, I have tried to convince myself to forget the incident so as not to act rashly; after all, the date might simply be a coincidence. " (Shibli, 2024, p. 63).

This inner tension is further complicated as the narrative reveals the shadow of guilt the protagonist would feel were he to choose indifference and forgo the journey. Given that the past victim was a Bedouin girl a figure embodying an integral part of Palestinian identity a powerful moral imperative arises from within him. This psychological burden is depicted through the protagonist's inability to banish those tragic memories from his mind, as reflected in the following excerpt.

> "Yet, sometimes events from the past cannot simply be ignored just because present-day events are no less horrific... Once again, the image arises: a group of Israeli soldiers capturing a Bedouin girl, raping her, and then killing her. " (Shibli, 2024, p. 63)

The persistent recurrence of tragic memories ultimately steels the protagonist's resolve to take action. The narrative then reveals how the protagonist overcomes their hesitation by devising a concrete travel plan. Since the protagonist resides in Zone A, while the site of the violence they

wish to investigate lies in Zone D, they are confronted by strict territorial restrictions associated with the occupation. To circumvent these limitations, the protagonist borrows an identity card belonging to a friend from Zone C, claiming to have urgent business there. This ruse is deliberately employed to enable them to pass through military checkpoints and enter the area in Zone D where the incident occurred. It is this tactical decision to adopt a disguise that marks the beginning of the protagonist's journey to uncover information about past violence, as evidenced by the following excerpt:

> "I then told one of them a female colleague from Jerusalem's Area C that I had some personal business to attend to in her area, or perhaps a bit further afield. That way, I could easily use her ID card to take care of my errand and then return it when we met again at the office early the following week. " (Shibli, 2024, p. 66).

3. Physical Responses of Palestinian Women Throughout the Journey of Seeking Information on Post-Nakba Violence

Once the protagonist decides to embark on a journey to trace history, the novel's narrative focuses on a detailed depiction of her physical state. Shibli presents textual details revealing how the protagonist's body constantly exhibits unusual reactions manifesting from the moment the journey begins right through to her encounters with critical situations on the road. The initial physical response occurs just before the journey actually commences; as the protagonist steps into the car, she suddenly experiences a bodily sensation. The author describes this sensation as an invisible pressure binding her body, as reflected in the following excerpt:

> "However, once I sat behind the wheel and turned the key to start the engine, I felt as though I were being wrapped in a kind of spiderweb that slowly transformed into a thick, impenetrable wall before me no matter how fragile it appeared. That wall was nothing other than my own fear." (Shibli, 2024, p. 67)

As the vehicle begins to move through the occupied territory, the description of the protagonist's physical response does not stop at that sensation of constriction. Shibli reveals that whenever the protagonist must confront the reality of inspections at checkpoints tightly controlled by the Israeli military, her physiological state undergoes an immediate, drastic shift. This somatic reaction manifests as an extremely rapid heartbeat a response that recurs every time she encounters military authorities, as described in the following passage:

> "I realized I was so close to the checkpoint that I could see a soldier checking a traveler's documents. My body went limp, and I nearly had a heart attack; fear returned, creeping slowly over me like a spider." (Shibli, 2024, p. 73).

4. Efforts by Palestinian Women Figures to Overcome Their Anxiety

The final part of the findings reveals that the protagonist does not merely passively succumb to the fearful reactions that grip her body during the journey. The novel's narrative consistently depicts specific behavioral patterns self-initiated efforts by the protagonist to quell her surging anxiety. Shibli demonstrates that the primary tactic she employs along the way is the deliberate shifting of her focus toward technical objects and mundane items in her immediate surroundings. This pattern of distraction manifests most frequently when she finds herself in harrowing situations while approaching Israeli military checkpoints; rather than dwelling on the imminent danger before her, she is portrayed as redirecting her attention to things around her, as evidenced by the following excerpt:

> "I scanned the area, searching for the little girl. Perhaps her presence would help ease my nervousness. But the little girl was truly gone. I then turned my attention to the pedestrians

queuing at the checkpoint, observing them one by one as they walked between the barricades." (Shibli, 2024, p. 73).

Discussion

These findings reveal that the neurotic anxiety depicted in the novel arises not from a direct threat, but from a fixation on a seemingly trivial detail specifically, a birth date. This demonstrates that under conditions of prolonged occupation, historical trauma can infiltrate the individual psyche through objectively insignificant coincidences, blurring the boundary between personal experience and collective history. Another significant aspect lies in the character's tendency to approach the source of the threat rather than retreat from it; this pattern distinguishes neurotic anxiety from ordinary fear, indicating that the actions are driven by internal conflict rather than merely reacting to external danger. The consistent recurrence of physical symptoms during confrontations with the occupying authorities further suggests that the character's body serves as a marker of the boundary between safe and dangerous spaces a form of bodily knowledge that precedes even their own rational awareness.

The findings of this study align with Nashef (2022), analysis, which identifies *Tafsil Tsanawi* as an attempt to uncover previously unrevealed history while highlighting the persistence of colonial violence against the Palestinian people. This study supports Nashef's perspective while revealing a distinct dimension: whereas Nashef's analysis centers on the silencing of history and structural colonialism, this study demonstrates that the persistence of such violence is specifically represented through the protagonist's psychological experience manifested in the conditions of occupation that constantly frame their daily life and in the bodily responses that recur whenever they confront military authority. This difference in emphasis can be attributed to differing theoretical perspectives: the postcolonial framework employed by Nashef highlights the structural-historical dimensions of silencing, while the psychoanalytic framework used in this study highlights its psychological manifestations at the individual level.

Beyond the analysis of the same novel, this study broadens the scope of research into neurotic anxiety within literature. Li Gengming (2024) explains that neurotic anxiety arises from the insecurity and psychological pressure experienced by a character, while Niza (2022) analyzes a character's neurotic anxiety in an Arabic novel using Freudian concepts. A similar pattern appears in Naufal (2024), research, which demonstrates that repeated external pressure on a character specifically cyberbullying in that instance results in measurable psychological impacts across various dimensions of the character's life. This reinforces the premise underlying the present study: that the psychological pressure experienced by a character is best understood not as a reaction to a single, isolated event, but as an accumulation of responses to persistent external stressors. Unlike those three studies, which focus on identifying a character's psychological state, this research demonstrates how Adania Shibli represents neurotic anxiety through narrative stages that link the pressures of the occupation and the internal conflict of decision-making to the character's bodily responses and attempts to cope with anxiety. Thus, the study reveals that a staged narrative strategy can serve as a primary means of representing neurotic anxiety as a consequence of ongoing post-Nakba violence.

The findings of this study support Sigmund Freud's concept of neurotic anxiety, which posits that anxiety arises when the ego confronts a persistent dangerous situation and is no longer able to control threats stemming from external reality. In his theoretical framework, Freud identified the ego as the locus of anxiety, serving to signal danger; however, when a threat is continuous, the

ego can become overwhelmed, thereby triggering anxiety symptoms (Freud, 1926). This study reveals such dynamics as a Palestinian female protagonist discovers news reports regarding a violent incident from 1949, prompting her to investigate the site of the event. The drive to uncover the truth about the incident represents the demands of the id, while the ego is constantly confronted with the reality of the occupation of Palestine characterized by surveillance, restrictions on movement, and the threat of violence. This conflict between id impulses and the demands of external reality renders the ego unable to maintain its equilibrium, resulting in anxiety that manifests as psychosomatic symptoms and an exaggerated response to the environment, as observed in the study's findings (Fitriyah et al., 2022).

The id's impulses do not act alone in overwhelming the ego; they are reinforced by moral demands that contrary to the superego's usual role of opposing the id actually align with it. This is evident in the guilt the protagonist feels regarding the Bedouin girl killed in 1949, whom he views as sharing his own Palestinian identity. This alignment between id impulses and moral obligation ultimately overcomes the ego's resistance, as demonstrated by the protagonist's decision to borrow a colleague's ID card to pass through a military checkpoint and reach the restricted area where the incident occurred. Once the journey begins, his body registers what his conscious mind struggles to fully articulate: a racing heart and a recurring, net-like sensation of suffocation—specifically during confrontations with military authorities indicating that the ego's regulatory capacity has been overwhelmed by the pressure of the ongoing conflict. In response, the protagonist is depicted shifting his attention to surrounding details, such as the pedestrians queuing at the checkpoint; this serves as an attempt by the ego to manage anxiety without resolving the underlying source of the conflict.

Thus, Adania Shibli represents neurotic anxiety not through scenes of direct violence, but through a gradual narrative process in which the character's psychological conflict understood via the concepts of the id, the ego, and the moral demands typically associated with the superego manifests as concrete actions, physical symptoms, and defensive behaviors. These findings suggest a refinement of the classical Freudian model: while the id and superego are typically understood as opposing forces, this study demonstrates that under conditions of prolonged occupation and collective historical trauma, they can actually converge, jointly overwhelming the ego's capacity to maintain psychological equilibrium.

Shibli portrays neurotic anxiety through recurring psychosomatic responses such as a racing heart and a sensation of choking whenever the protagonist confronts military authority during her journey. This repetition indicates that the threat of occupation is not registered as a singular, resolved event; instead, it continually reactivates the protagonist's sense of being threatened, aligning with the view that unresolved trauma tends to resurface through repetition (Yulia, 2022; Ambiya, 2024). Thus, Shibli represents neurotic anxiety not through a solitary depiction of fear, but through bodily manifestations that recur at every point of confrontation, linking the violence of 1949 to the protagonist's present-day experiences.

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that Adania Shibli portrays neurotic anxiety in the novel *Tafsil Tsanawi* through four interconnected stages: the state of occupation as a persistent external reality; the protagonist's internal conflict regarding the decision to uncover the truth about the events of 1949; the psychosomatic responses recurring throughout her journey; and the protagonist's attempts to divert her attention as a form of self-defense. These findings indicate that the protagonist's

anxiety is constructed incrementally through the interplay between past violence and her present experiences, thereby addressing the study's objective of examining how Shibli represents neurotic anxiety in the novel.

These findings confirm that the character's neurotic anxiety stems not merely from individual experience, but from the external reality of the ongoing occupation of Palestine a consequence of post-Nakba violence. From a Freudian psychoanalytic perspective, this condition compels the ego to constantly confront environmental threats, rendering it unable to balance the id's drive to reveal the truth against the demands of a perilous reality. The study further expands upon the nuances of this theory by demonstrating that, in this instance, the id's drive is reinforced by the moral imperatives typically associated with the superego.

This study contributes to the field of literary psychoanalysis by demonstrating that neurotic anxiety does not arise solely from an internally conflicted personality structure but is instead triggered by external realities. Specifically, the condition of persistent occupation impacts the character's personality structure, forcing the id and ego into conflict. These findings extend the application of Freud's theory of neurotic anxiety by showing that the source of the internal (id-ego) conflict can be traced to specific external conditions, while also complementing earlier scholarship on Tafsil Tsanawi and neurotic anxiety within Arabic literature more broadly.

This study has a limitation: it does not yet deeply examine how the intrinsic elements crafted by Shibli function as narrative strategies to convey the character's neurotic anxiety in greater depth, nor how the novel contributes to Shibli's overall narrative strategy. Given this limitation, future research is encouraged to examine Tafsil Tsanawi through an analysis of intrinsic elements such as plot, point of view, symbolism, and theme to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the narrative strategies Shibli employs to represent the impact of post-Nakba violence. Combining structural and literary-psychological approaches holds the potential to yield a more holistic understanding of the relationship between narrative construction and the representation of the character's psychological state within the novel.

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Credit Author Statement

Pitriani : responsible for the conceptualization, data collection, formal analysis, and writing of the original draft. **Fredinal Ferdinal**: contributed to the review and restructuring of the manuscript. **Maizufri**: contributed to the review of the manuscript.

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The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this manuscript.

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During the preparation of this manuscript, the author used ChatGPT and Claude AI to assist with language editing, translation, and structuring of certain sections, including the research gap and

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