

ROBERT LANGDON'S ANIMA IN DAN BROWN'S THE LOST SYMBOL

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Abstract

Anima is an inner feminine side that may be owned by a male person. Thus, this study is aimed to discover anima in *The Lost Symbol* novel by Dan Brown. This study focuses on anima in Robert Langdon as a protagonist in *The Lost Symbol*. It uses anima theory by Carl G. Jung (1968) applied through the Content Analysis Method by systematically evaluating the data found on the novel. This study also used characterization theory using showing-telling method by Albertine Minderop (2005) to analyze the data. Based on data analysis the anima can be found in protagonist by action, dialogue, and thought. This study concludes that, anima can be found in literature aspects such as, novel or character on novel itself, both the aspects as a whole and in small way. The anima can be found on novel or character on novel, and proves that psyche, archetype, and anima can be found in literature aspects.

Keywords: archetype, anima, characterization, psyche

1. INTRODUCTION

As the third Dan Brown's masterpiece, *The Lost Symbol* (2009) continues the story of Robert Langdon's adventures in the previous two novels, *Angels & Demons* (2000) and *The Da Vinci Code* (2003). It tells on how Langdon solves problems that related to Masons and symbols in America as a symbology professor. Since it explicitly describes masonry and symbols, it can be understood that those have become superior topic. However, there is another thought-provoking issue embedded in the novel and qualified to be considered which is an existence of female side inside Langdon's psyche, anima. Anima is one of Jung (1968) concepts on four major archetypes, The Self, Persona, Shadow, and Anima or Animus, within a human psyche.

Archetypes are inferred as "systems of readiness for action, and at the same time images and emotions" (Jung, 1959) which means a person's way of thinking or ideas, attitude and emotion in a conscious state experiences the impact from the inner state or unconsciousness. This can be seen through Langdon's actions and reactions towards particular events or interactions with certain people in the story especially when it has connection with Peter Solomon, his best friend and colleague. Langdon's anima is shown clearly on how he reacts towards Peter's morning call. Anima itself is a part of archetypes and collective unconscious, a common to all human and responsible for deep instinct such as sexual behavior, life, and death instinct (Jung, 2004). Thus his reaction somehow is correlated with an instinct that Peter is not in a safe condition.

The correlations between archetypes and collective unconscious come from unconsciousness, this is made archetypes will not appear without collective unconscious, because archetypes is a part of collective unconscious itself. Archetypes have formed unconsciously and played a role in personality formation. It means this unconscious have to make archetypes appear in humans and determine the personality of a human. Therefore, it can be said that archetypes is a basic pattern

of human character, or human behavior. Based on the description, this study is discussing on how anima appears in Robert Langdon as a protagonist in *The Lost Symbol*.

Besides the writer uses theories from Jung about anima, the writer uses theories showing and telling method to research this research. According to Minderop (2005), "*Metode langsung atau Direct Method (telling) mencakup: karakterisasi melalui penggunaan nama tokoh, karakterisasi melalui penampilan tokoh, dan karakterisasi melalui tuturan pengarang*" (Minderop, 2005). Minderop (2005) said, "*Metode Showing mencakup: dialog dan tingkah laku, karakterisasi melalui dialog*" (Minderop, 2005). It means telling method is the author explained the character, or through the name and nature of the character. Showing method is the method of characterizations that come from the dialogue or action from the character itself.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

In order to identify and analyze the anima in Langdon's psyche within the story, this study is used descriptive qualitative method as a part of qualitative research. (Moleong, 2017) emphasized that descriptive was not the data with form of numbers but it used data with the form of images and words. Thus, the data collected could be the key for the research. Therefore, the author used descriptive methods because the form of the data were novel.

In addition, the taken data were also analyzed used showing and telling method from Albertine Minderop (2005) and content analysis data. It means that the procedures of analyzing the data was data that found in novel *The Lost Symbol* analyze used theory of Jung about anima and showing-telling method by Minderop. Next, those data were carried out into a data collection techniques, which then was used to analyze anima using the technique suggested by (Taylor & Bogdan, 1984). Thus, Figure 1 below is technical technique in conducting the analysis on Langdon's anima.

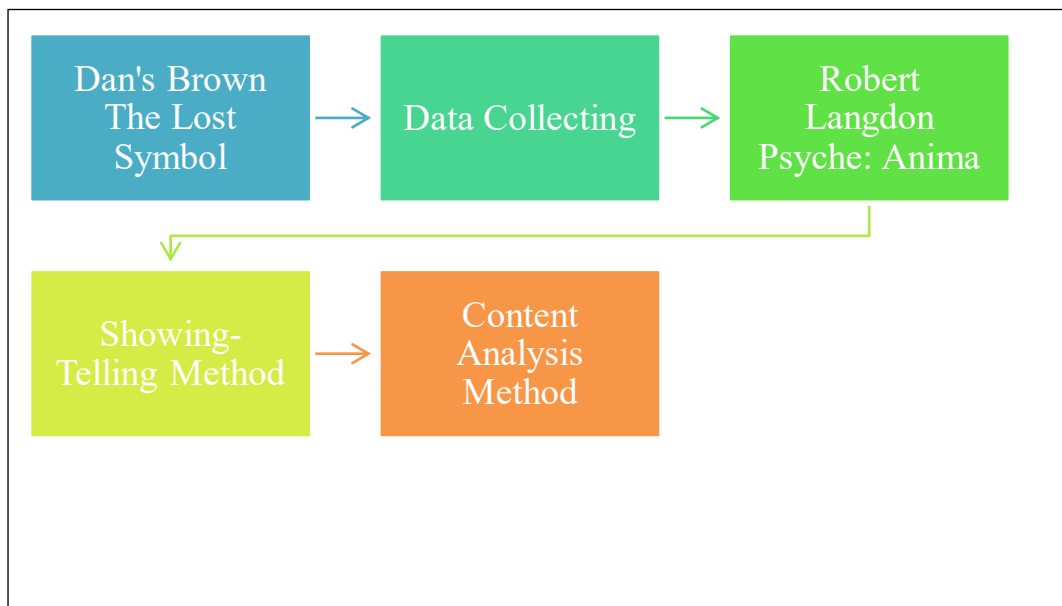


Figure 1. Research Method Chart

The procedures was taken by the writer in carrying out data collection techniques at anima. First, the writer read the data source that the writer used. Furthermore, the writer found and identified data source that had an issue about anima. Last, the writer took and collected the data that had anima references here.

Then after the author had carried out all data collection techniques, analysis of anima here used used qualitative methods that had been suggested by (Taylor & Bogdan, 1984). First, collecting data of anima here that found on the novel *The Lost Symbol*, then classifying data that had been found on the novel based on anima by using showing-telling method. Last procedures was analyzing the data with content analysis method and made conclusions from the results after all stages of analysis had been completed.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this section anima is discussed that appears to Robert Langdon as a protagonist. As a well-known professor in the field of symbology, Robert Langdon had extensive knowledge. Nevertheless, Langdon was known as his colleagues and students as a friendly person and did not hesitate to provide assistance. Thus, the nature of Langdon made him highly respected and admired by his colleagues and students, this also made him have many colleagues. One of them, Peter Solomon, even later considered Langdon as a dear friend.

“Langdon watch Bellamy, but his mind was with Peter, trying to figure out how best to find him”. (Brown, 2006: 295).

From the data above, it is told that Langdon was talking to another character named Bellamy. He is the one who saved Langdon from a police interrogation. Bellamy is discussing a problem about a cube-shaped that Langdon carried and Langdon listened carefully to Bellamy's explanation, but his mind remained fixed on his friend Peter Solomon. Langdon always thought about the condition of his friend, his location at the moment, his condition and his well-being., Langdon considers Peter as his best friend, mentor, teacher, even father for him because of his capability. This can be seen from a phrase, **“but his mind was with Peter,...”**. The phrase showed clearly how Langdon was worried about his best friend.

The feelings came in a form of anxiety and uneasy feelings. Such feelings are common in humans' psyche as a natural instinct to taking care of anything or anyone closed to them since Peter is Langdon's best friend, it is natural wanting Peter to be safe and fine. The natural instinct itself presents both in male and female.

However, the nature of the one Langdon showed for his friend was more often shown by a female. A female's anxiety, worry and affection can be seen through her behavior and body gestures. Some of them mostly are unable to focus on the event happening at the present time. This is different with a male who tend not to show it and only keep it to themselves. Langdon tried to watch and listen Bellamy's explanation, but his mind thinking about Peter and solution in finding Peter. It means Langdon as male tries to hide away his consideration on Peter yet tries to focus to be present with Bellamy. Therefore, anima archetypes appear on the character of Langdon through his natural instinct to protect his loved.

“Robert Langdon's eyes filled with relief as she rushed through the door way.... directly into his arms”. (Brown, 2006: 300)

From the data above, it is told that Langdon met his old friend, Katherine Solomon. She is Langdon's old friend daughter. In this situation both Langdon and Katherine knew that Peter was in a state of concern, which he has been kidnaped and in death threats. This is a dangerous

situation not only to Peter, but also to Langdon himself and Katherine. It is possible for Katherine to be the next target of death threats since she is the only descendant of Peter. Moreover, it may happen due to her knowledge on Peter's secrets about Mason, a religious secret organization. Knowing this situation, Langdon told her to go to safe place even though Katherine decided to meet Langdon in person.

The moment Katherine rushed into the room where Langdon existed makes him filled with relief because Katherine is safe. The anxiety and uneasy feelings which experienced by Langdon previously are common in humans' psyche. It is also occurred to the relief feeling when he sees Katherine. It is the natural instinct of human presents in male or female.

In the sentence above, Langdon was so happy and touched when he saw Katherine appear before him with fine conditions. As soon as possible Langdon approached Katherine and embraced her into his arms with longing, concern, and affection. From the explanation above, how Langdon expresses his feelings towards his friend is something common. Natural things happen to every human being, but it is rarely found in men in general. This is because men tend not to show it openly to others. In contrast to women who have the qualities shown by Langdon more than what men have. Therefore, it is fine if the nature shown by Langdon can be found in men.

“Langdon held her. ‘It’s okay,’ he whispered. ‘You’re okay.’”.

(Brown, 2006: 300)

From the data above, it is told that after meeting with Katherine, Langdon embraced her with longing, worry, and affection. As Langdon tried to calm his friend after being in a dangerous condition that Katherine will be killed by someone that Katherine believes her father's personal doctor. Like a human being, whatever the human background will surely calm someone if the person is in or after the danger because it is a natural instinct of human. Just as Langdon did to his old friend. Langdon is a professor who is very smart, intelligent, and respected by his colleagues and students, but Langdon still has the same feelings as other humans.

In the sentence above, while hugging his old friend Langdon also tried to calm him down. This happens to every human being and this is shown more by a woman, even though men are very able to do the same, but a woman tends to show more to others. An example is in a mother nature. A mother always calms her loved ones, be they children, husband or family if they are in a dangerous situation. Different from a man who tends to do the same thing but no more what women do. A man usually does the same thing but only to entertain and calm him, and for some men to issue this trait or instinct is an insult to a man.

“‘Oh God...’ Langdon’s voice was laced with fear. ‘Did you invite this man inside?’ ‘Yes!’ My assistant just went out to the lobby to get him. I expect them back any—‘Katherine, get out!’ Langdon yelled. ‘Now!’”.

(Brown, 2006: 247)

From the data above, it is told when Langdon was contacting his old friend on a cell phone to find out the circumstances and whereabouts of his old friend, Katherine. Langdon knows that Katherine was receiving a guest she knew as a doctor who often handled her father in her house. Langdon knows that something dangerous was threatening her. Something dangerous was in a doctor who she believed to be her father's personal doctor. Langdon knew as soon as possible to tell Katherine. This can be seen from a phrase **‘Katherine, get out!’ Langdon yelled. ‘Now!’**

In the sentence above, it was seen that Langdon told her to get out of her house as soon as possible with a high tone of voice. This was because, Langdon wanted Katherine to avoid the danger that threatened her. It is because Langdon knows that Katherine is someone who must be protected. The thing Langdon did was very reasonable, considering the condition of his friend in

a dangerous condition. Something normal is done by every human being if he is in the same position as Langdon experienced, but the natural nature of Langdon is found more in a woman who is experiencing the same thing with Langdon, or even a simpler thing than Langdon experienced. Women tend to be more attentive to others, especially to the people they love. Things that other people think are simple and even ordinary, for women if indeed something can endanger other people, then women will remind, notify, even prohibit in various ways to the person to do something he wants because women know that he will do can harm him. Thus, this can certainly be done by men, because women or men are humans who certainly have that basic pattern, but for men this applies if indeed something dangerous is going to happen in the near future and the way it is delivered is different. Some say it in mediocrity, so it's just a reminder. There are also reminders but with more disposition, but it all depends on the person he tells, whether he accepts or not.

“Langdon hoisted his bag higher onto his shoulder and laid his hand on top of it, as if somehow this might better hide the cube-shaped package he was carrying. He could feel his face had gone ashen. ‘I’m... just worried about Peter’”. (Brown, 2006: 163)

From the data above, it is told Langdon was talking to the police chief named Sato. Sato was asking questions and discussing Langdon about what happened where they were. Langdon also followed what Sato talked to him. However, in this condition Langdon also thinking and worrying about his best friend Peter Solomon. Peter's conditions and whereabouts were unknown to Langdon. Therefore he was very worried about his friend. Besides worrying about Peter, Langdon also tried to protect the cube-shaped package he was carrying and the cube-shaped has significance in Mason associations. This can be seen from a phrase **“Langdon hoisted his bag higher onto his shoulder and laid his hand on top of it, as if somehow this might better hide the cube-shaped package he was carrying. He could feel his face had gone ashen”**. It can be seen from how he protects the cube-shaped so as not to disappear from its reach. This can be seen from how he is hoisted his bag. This things that Langdon does unconsciously shows that he wants to protect the cube-shaped and worried that the cube-shaped he was carrying would be lost.

Another phrase is **“I’m... just worried about Peter”**. At the same time, besides he protects the cube-shaped he also thinking and worried about his friend Peter. Langdon's thoughts split into two. Keep the cube-shaped to stay safe and worry about Peter's condition. But Langdon's main priority is to find out where Peter is. This is because Langdon was very fond of his friend. In thinking divided, Langdon kept thinking about the existence of Peter.

Thus, what Langdon did was very reasonable. The same thing that will be done by all humans in the same situation. However, guarding, worrying, and feeling affection is a natural trait that is often found in every woman. Does not mean that men do not have these qualities. How to convey and behavior alone that distinguishes it. For a woman, that trait is a trait that is almost used at all times, whether in simple or extraordinary things. Different from men who only use these nature and instincts only in conditions that make it possible.

4. CONCLUSION

Although psyche, archetype has been used by expert in psychology, this term is also can be used by common people in their daily life. Through this report, the writer has found that psyche and archetype can be found in all things, not only in human life and psychology. It can be find in literature. It can be find in the character of the novel. Based on data analysis, the anima has been founded in Robert Langdon character in *The Lost Symbol*. There are five data found that related

with anima. Based on the data analysis, Langdon showed anima from the way he worried about his friends by always thinking of his friends and finding ways to meet and save his friends. Second, the anima appears in Robert Langdon is thinking about his friends when his friends in a danger situation. It is showed by Langdon with the way that he thinking and worried about his friends in every conditions such as, when he is talked with other characters. In conclusion anima can be found in all aspect, not only in psychology. In literature aspect, anima can be found in novel or character in the novel.

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