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THE PERSONALITY STRUCTURE AND DEFENSE MECHANISM OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE SERIESEUPHORIA (2019)

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Abstract

The research presented here focuses on Rue Bennett, the protagonist of the film series Euphoria. Using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory as a guide, the goal of this study is to determine Rue Bennett's personality structure and analyze her protective mechanisms. In this study, qualitative approaches and descriptive analysis are utilized to analyze data through the lens of psychoanalytic theory in relation to personality structure and defensive mechanisms in films. Utilizing these methodologies, this hypothesis is incorporated into the research. The information is gathered from both the script's speech and the film's pictures. Rue Bennett, a 17-year-old adolescent, has developed a drug dependence in order to reduce the overwhelming anxiety she encounters, according to the findings. As a result, Rue's anxiety problem has caused an uneven personality structure as a consequence of the ailment. Her id takes precedence over her superego when it comes to the causes of her anxiety and panic attacks. Even though Rue employs a variety of defensive mechanisms, including denial, projection, and fantasy. These are insufficient to assist her in overcoming her traumatic experiences and anxieties.

Keywords: character, defense mechanism, euphoria, personality structure

Abstrak

Penelitian yang disajikan di sini berfokus pada Rue Bennett, protagonis dari serial film Euphoria. Menggunakan teori psikoanalitik Sigmund Freud sebagai panduan, tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menentukan struktur kepribadian Rue Bennett dan menganalisis mekanisme peringatannya. Dalam penelitian ini, pendekatan kualitatif dan analisis deskriptif digunakan untuk menganalisis data melalui lensa teori psikoanalitik dalam kaitannya dengan struktur kepribadian dan mekanisme defensif dalam film. Memanfaatkan metodologi ini, hipotesis ini dimasukkan ke dalam penelitian. Informasi dikumpulkan dari pidato naskah dan gambar film. Rue Bennett, seorang remaja berusia 17 tahun, telah mengembangkan ketergantungan obat untuk mengurangi kecemasan luar biasa yang dia hadapi, menurut temuan tersebut. Akibatnya, masalah kecemasan Rue telah menyebabkan struktur kepribadian yang tidak merata sebagai konsekuensi dari penyakitnya. Id-nya lebih diutamakan daripada superegonya ketika datang ke penyebab kecemasan dan serangan paniknya. Meskipun Rue menggunakan berbagai mekanisme pertahanan, termasuk penolakan, proyeksi, dan fantasi. Ini tidak cukup untuk membantunya mengatasi pengalaman traumatis dan kecemasannya.

Kata kunci: arakter, mekanisme pertahanan, euforia, struktur kepribadian

1. Introduction

Mind, mental processes, and human behavior are among the important topics that psychology investigates in depth (Kalat, 1996). This branch of study typically focuses on the movement of thoughts within the mind of an individual. In addition, the study examines the causes of human behavior and the actions that humans exhibit. Psychoanalysis refers to a group of psychological ideas and techniques that emphasize the unconscious as a basic aspect of human adaptability and behavior (Milton, Polmear, & Fabricius, 2014). Freud, an Austrian physician and psychiatrist who lived from 1856 to 1939, developed the psychoanalytic theory currently utilized to treat emotional illnesses. This is the origin of all that later became known as "talk therapy." Freud used his discoveries to the development of a psychoanalytic philosophy of psychology. This ideology emphasized the importance of the unconscious in all aspects of mental existence.

According to psychoanalytic theory, every human possesses their own id, ego, and superego. Everyone is aware that *Euphoria* is a film on the development of personality structure in adolescents. The *Euphoria* film series has a number of sequences, the

most of which center on the series' main character, Rue Bennett, that demonstrate how a person's mental health may influence their personality.

In psychoanalysis, personality and defensive systems are also examined. Scientists use the term personality to refer to an individual's trait or to describe the what, why, and how of human conduct, according to Ja'far (2016). The typical patterns of an individual's thoughts, emotions, and behaviors determine their personality structure. Personality traits are the fundamental determinants of inter-individual differences (Matthews, Deary, & Whiteman, 2003). In contrast, defense mechanisms are unconscious psychological procedures used to protect a person from discomfort caused by unsuitable ideas or sensations, with the aim of minimizing or mitigating the individual's stress (Koswara, 1991). The characteristics that influence personality development, according to Freud, include maturity and individual techniques of coping with tension, which might be the result of dissatisfaction, conflict, and threats (Ja'far, 2016). As part of their efforts to alleviate this stress, individuals adopt defensive measures.

Even though Rue Bennett is a fictional character in a film, she can be evaluated as a human. Psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud, which is introduced in the first line, is the well-known theory associated with the psychological analysis of the film's protagonists.

According to Moesono, psychoanalysis had a specific relationship with film before it was defined as one of the techniques and judged suitable for the cinematic realm (2003). This theory has provided a useful technique for understanding film characters, as personality and defense mechanisms exist both in the real world and in film. Psychoanalytic theory can therefore also be applied to the film's characters.

The story is portrayed from a psychological perspective in the 2019 film series *Euphoria*, with Rue Bennett as the main character who fights with mental issues. Since childhood, she has fought with a number of mental diseases and terrible experiences, which have all contributed to her continual state of excessive anxiety and unexpected mood swings. Rue, who had been seeking tranquility with all her effort, became addicted to narcotics at the point where she became hopelessly entangled. She had a tremendous desire to overcome her drug addiction, but she was unable to do so due to the conditions that caused her to repeatedly relapse and get addicted again.

Based on the description that was supplied previously. The purpose of this study is to apply Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory to assess the mental health of Rue Bennett, the protagonist of the *Euphoria* film series. Consequently, this theory is deemed the appropriate way for examining the main character's psychological condition issue.

2. Method

This study applied qualitative research methods. Currently, according to Ali and Yusof, any investigation that does not include statistical methods is referred to as "qualitative," as if this were an independent quality designation (2011). The qualitative method excludes all statistically-based study.

Due to the absence of statistical data, this study adopts a qualitative method.

Indeed, Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theories are applied to examine the character in this study. According to Nurgiyantoro, the term "characterization" has a broader meaning than "character" and "characteristics" because it simultaneously addresses the issues of who the story characters are, what their character is, and how they are placed and described in a story so as to provide the reader with a clear image. Characterizations also give techniques for the embodiment and development of a story's characters (1995). Utilizing the theories of Joseph Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie, this study will also discuss characterization.

3. Discussion and Result

This section's primary purpose was to examine, with the aid of Petrie and Boggs' character and characterization theory, how the main character is portrayed in the film adaptation of the Euphoria series. It has been determined that the protagonist of this film series experiences psychological difficulties. This was determined by evaluating the portrayal of the characters in the films. In this chapter, Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory will be used to analyze the psychological concerns described in the second section of this study. All of these difficulties belong to the protagonist.

In order to catch and cite every major conversation and monologue that occurs in the film series, one of the research methodologies employed in this study consists of attentive and continuous viewing of the film series. This is a crucial phase since it allows for the recording of every idea, action, and discussion the protagonist has with the other characters in the film series. This study will include quotations from talks and monologues, as well as images of emotions, actions, and interactions, to bolster the arguments offered in response to the aforementioned research questions. Character and characterization theory created by Petrie and Boggs will be applied to the following excerpt in order to explain the principal character.

❖ Character Analysis

Rue Bennett, who is established as the main character and plays a crucial role in the developing plot, is the focal point of the narrative. Rue Bennett, a 17-year-old former heroin addict, is attempting to find her place in the world. She is the series' major character in the Euphoria film series. The fact that Rue has lovely exotic complexion, a sharp nose, chest-length brown curly hair, and a slim figure (characterization through appearance) leads to the conclusion that she is a beautiful adolescent.

Petrie and Boggs argued that the greater the number of on-screen characters, the more likely it is that most viewers will be able to predict how those characters will evolve during the film. This includes their face features, clothing, personality, and mannerisms, as well as the way they walk (2008). Rue has spent her entire childhood with her mother and younger sister, Leslie Bennett-mother and Georgia Bennett-sister, due to her lack of a father. When Rue was fourteen years old and her younger sister Gia was just nine, her father, Robert Bennett, went away after a long and difficult struggle with cancer. Rue's depression is

partially attributable to the anguish she endured due to Robert's cancer illness. When Rue is under the influence of narcotics, her father figure appears to her more regularly. Rue frequently experiences Robert in the form of flashbacks or as a spiritual entity as a result of the hallucinations caused by the medicines she is taking. Rue resorts to drug addiction in order to escape her underlying sadness.

Rue Bennet, who was still a teenager at the start of the series, exhibits unusual behavior and a mystery personality. She is depicted as a young girl who enjoys daydreaming and becoming immersed in her own world; nonetheless, she suddenly bursts into tears for no apparent cause. In the very first scene of the film series, little Rue is depicted as a girl who enjoys becoming absorbed in her own thoughts while counting the number of boxes above her.

Rue : (look into the box above)thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen.

Leslie : (glance up) what are you looking at, Rue?(sweet smile)

Rue : Seventeen. Leslie : Rue, look at me.

Rue : (glanced at the mother andreturned to the boxes above)one, two, three.

Leslie : What are you doing, Rue?Rue : (crying)

(00:01:19 – 00:01:42) Episode 1

Rue's parents push her to see a doctor so that they may evaluate her state of health, given that other characters frequently form the impression that she is obsessed with her own ideas (characterization through reaction of others). Rue was a very little child at the time; therefore, she was unable to appreciate the reason for her mother's emotional reaction to the doctor's words.

As Rue grew older, she began to demonstrate to the audience that she possesses excellent personality traits. Rue's one redeeming quality is that, assuming she tries to be a responsible older sister figure for Gia, this is simply her method of making her sister happy (characterization through external actions). Gia has a great deal of affection for her older sister, as seen by the fact that she smiles whenever she sees Rue, who does the same whenever she sees Gia. Rue adores her younger sister, while Gia adores her older sister.

Rue is also known as a calm person. Because, when she addressing inquiries regarding the rehab period that she has successfully completed, Rue always speaks in a gentle and comfortable tone. This thing contributes to the perception that she is a calm person (characterization through dialogue). She responded to inquiries on rehabilitation that were posed by a variety of individuals. She also gave reassured to Fezco, who was the first buddy she made after she came home from rehabilitation.

Fezco : So, how long you been back?Rue : Five days.

Fezco : And like, how are you feeling?

Rue : I mean, ever since I gave my life over to my lord and savior Jesus Christ things have been like really good.

(00:09:31 – 00:09:40) Episode 1

Additionally, she was questioned at length about rehabilitation by the parents of his childhood buddies on some occasions. Rue responds with composure, stating that she has successfully moved past that stage.

Rue maintains her calm (characterization through appearance) in the face of the question that she has been asked on some occasions, despite the reality that she is still rather hesitate to provide a response.

In the perspective of Rue's mother, who is aware of all of Rue's actions, her personality is portrayed as that of a good girl when she conducts her daily activities in a manner comparable to that of average people. The fact that Rue has friends and acquaintances contributes to her appearance as a normal person. In different passages of the action, there are various depictions of being close to Jules as if they were friends that cared for one another as regular friends would.

Based on the photographs presented, it appears that Rue has a strong attachment for Jules. Her kind demeanor toward Jules is an unmistakable evidence of the affection she has for her friend. Rue tends to Jules's injured hand, first inquiring about its health before treating it with the utmost care. When they first meet, Rue travels to Jules' residence and sleeps there rather than returning home. Rue never says or does anything that might earn Jules's regard, despite the fact that she believes Jules to be an important person. Rue's interactions with Jules are usually exemplary since Jules is someone she cares about (characterization through external actions).

Rue notices Jules for the first time while glancing out the window of a moving vehicle. During that particular time period, Jules was riding a bicycle. When Rue shifted her body, she caught a glimpse of Jules's face as she sped past the young woman in a vehicle. As a measure of courtesy and to get to know her better, she should give her a personal introduction instead of standing there and starrng at her in silence. In contrast, Rue has devised an alternative method for recognizing Jules upon her return from a party. As time passed, they became better acquainted and exchanged stories. Since the first time Rue saw

Jules on the street, she has been the object of her admiration, and Rue has just decided that she would like to be Jules's friend.

Prior to meeting Jules, Rue had been to some location in order to purchase the drugs substances that she had been abusing. At that time, she is offered a new medicine that will induce in her the sensation of seeing or hearing something strange (characterization through internal action). In this imagination, Jules can be seen sitting in front of Rue while she is under a blanket by a blanket folded into the shape of a tent. As is evident from the dialogues that follows:

Ashtray : I thought your ass was dead.
Rue : I thought you had Asperger's till I realize you're just a prick.
Ashtray : This is a fickle industry. Y'all come and go. I'm just trying to stack my cash, payoff our mortgage. So, what the fuck do you want?(give the drugs)
Rue : (Take the drugs from his hand)
Ashtray : You don't want to try nothin' new?
Rue : Like what?
Ashtray : 2C-T-2, 2C-T-7, and 5-MeO-DIPT.
Rue : I'm sorry, I have zero fucking idea what just you said.
Ashtray : It doesn't matter. But this shit (pointed to other drugs) is fucking lit.
Rue : What is it? Ashtray : N-disopropyl-5-methoxytryptamine.
(00:10:14 – 00:10:49) Episode 1

Rue was so high at the moment that she believed all she had heard about these medications; hence, she decided to test them later. When Rue resumes drug use at the party, her already out-of-control imagination becomes even more unhinged. She did not reimagine Jules; rather, she saw the room inverted to the point where it was difficult for her to retain her footing. Rue is so adept at imagining the false pleasure that could be obtained from drugs that she relapses into drug addiction even after completing rehabilitation.

Based on an analysis of Rue Bennett's personality in accordance with the five tenets of Petrie and Boggs' theory of character, it is conceivable to conclude that Rue Bennett is the central figure in the Euphoria film series. The film's protagonist, Rue Bennett, is portrayed as a fiery person. Rue is believed to have a unique personality and unpredictability that contradicts her nature when she is first introduced. The additional cause for Rue's personality is part of an important issue that will be discussed in the subsequent subchapter on Rue's personality structure.

❖ Structure of Personality

According to Freud's psychoanalytic theory, these three structures, the id, the ego, and the superego, are part of the mind, not the brain. Freud's thesis was founded on his assumption that the ego was the most crucial of the three (Freud, 1965). According to this idea, there are three unique personality structures: the id, the most fundamental form of personality, has always existed, seeks pleasure, desires quick fulfilment for demands, and is oblivious to the passage of time. Ego; operates on the reality principle; attempts to balance the demands of the id and the superego in the real world; engages in compromise, which implies that gratification is delayed, deferred, or postponed. The superego is the internal parental and social value that maintains the conceptions of good and evil and behaves in accordance with moral norms. If a person violates the rules that their superego has set, they may experience emotions of guilt. The contributions that parents and other family members play in the formation of these three structures are crucial.

Normal people have a balanced relationship between their id, ego, and superego; however, this does not work for those unable to control their ego due to their strong id's desires and their superego's weakness. People with an imbalance in their personality structure nearly invariably have poor habits and feel no remorse for them. Rue suffers from the same condition as a result of her weak superego, which allows her strong id to dominate her ego.

Rue struggled to strike a balance between her id, ego, and superego even before she completed her recovery at the beginning of this book, when she was a young adult. It is clear from her happiness whenever she is among the few surviving members of her family. Rue does not want to disappoint those to whom she is genuinely attached and loves, particularly her younger sister. Rue usually has a smile on her face whenever she is with her sister. In order to cheer up her younger sister while she is near her, she agrees to Gia's request to take photographs while riding the bus.

However, her sobriety was short-lived because a strong aspect of her id compelled her to resume substance abuse. After five days at home, Rue visits Fezco, a friend who also happens to be a drug dealer. According to Semiun, "Id disregards morality and insists that its demands be met immediately [...] Id lacks decency" (Semiun, 2006). The major function of the ego is to satisfy Rue's needs. However, as previously explained, Rue's desire to take drugs cannot be suppressed to the point where the id governs that day without the involvement of the superego. This is because the id is driven by the pursuit of pleasure, and

the ego's principal goal is to fulfill Rue's wishes. Rue's behavior has two purposes: it relieves the anxiety that leads her to forget how to breathe, and it offers her pleasure by facilitating her connection to the unconscious. Rue's actions are viewed as a manifestation of the goals she seeks to achieve.

In a different circumstance, Rue is observed acting terrified and anxious in class. Rue was requested to be the first one to take the stage and address her peers. As she took her place on stage, her teacher instructed her to recount the summer activities she had participated in the previous year. As can be seen from the following dialogues:

Teacher : So, let's start with a little
improvisation. I'd like each of you to get up and tell us a five-minutes story
about your summer.
Rue : (Crouch)
Teacher : Looks like we have our
first volunteer, Rue.
Rue : Please don't do this tome.
Teacher : Come on everyone, Let's give her a little encouragement. (give applause)
(00:15:21 – 00:15:38) Episode 2

At that point, Rue had previously attempted to share her story, but she was unable to do it. In order to conceal her anxiousness, she decided to leave the area and travel to the restroom. Id Rue, who adheres to the principle that pleasure should come first, asserts her authority in an effort to eliminate that horrible sensation. Rue enters the cubicle of the restroom intending to consume drugs, which she does in order to escape her terrible emotions as quickly as possible. At that precise time, though, someone was knocking on the door of the restroom where she stood. Rue is so startled by the sound of the knock on the door that she discards her pills. Rue presses the button on the closet to make it appear as though she recently had a bowel movement after disposing of the medications. During those split seconds, Rue's superego exerted pressure on her id to stop from using drugs, and she utilized that time to compose herself before opening the lavatory door. Rue observes, as she looks out the window, that her superego is not operating properly, and as a result, her id is once again able to govern it. When she found that the person who had knocked on her restroom door was a childhood acquaintance, she was rather surprised. She had assumed that the person who had visited her was a stranger. Rue's id was dominating her at the time, and because she knew it was her childhood friend who had come, he took out his rage on her childhood friend for preventing her from achieving what he desired. As evidenced by the following dialogue:

Lexi : *Are you okay?*
 Rue : *You are so fucking stupid, Lexi.*
 Lexi : *Why?*
 Rue : *'Cause I already flushed everything down the fucking toilet.*
 Lexi : *Well, I just came to check on you.*
 Rue : *(Punch the door) I don't w.. I don't want you to fucking check on me, whether I'm fine or I'm not fine. What difference are you going to make? Are you going to give me some life advice? You gonna fucking help me?*
 Lexi : *Well, you're like one of my best friends.*
 Rue : *Give me a fucking break. 'Cause we went to fucking pre-school together? That does not make us best fucking friends.*
 (00:21:16 – 00:21:48) Episode 2

Then there comes the incident in which Rue meets Jules for the first time. As previously indicated, Rue could only see Jules from within the confines of the car, and she had not yet formally introduced herself. Rue found Jules at a party she was attending till the conclusion of the first episode. Rue is presented with the opportunity to formally introduce herself to Jules, so she seizes it. Jules welcomes Rue's addition with warm arms as well. They grew closer until they eventually became best friends and shared a connection as a couple of best friends. Rue and Jules are always there for and supportive of each other because of their great friendship. Rue's life was proceeding smoothly until she encountered an unexpected event. Rue was currently on her way to Fezco's house when the incident occurred there. Rue forcibly enters Fezco's residence despite Fezco's warnings against doing so. Rue was unaware that Fezco would be involved in the drug trade and that the individual who would be arriving was a dangerous individual, despite the fact that Fezco had warned her of both of these facts from the start. Rue was stunned when she discovered Fezco concealing a gun in the couch. Rue is adamantly opposed to leaving Fezco's residence, despite the fact that he has made it abundantly obvious that she must do so immediately. As will become apparent in the following dialogues:

Fezco : *I can't help you right now, you gotta go. Yo, for real, Rue. I ain't fuckin' playing with you. Come on.*
 Rue : *(Ignored him)*
 Fezco : *You can't be in here.*
 Rue : *Look, Fez. I'm fucking drenched, okay? And, uh.. I'm out of drugs. So, don't be a dick.*
 Fezco : *Oh my God. That's not my fucking problem. You gotta get up out of my house right now before these motherfuckers come through.*
 Rue : *All I need is a couple OCs..* Fezco : *For real..*
 Rue : *And some Xannies. That's all I need, and I can be gone.*
 Fezco : *Yo, I'm trying to tell you, I don't got shit right now. Like.. Come back in a few hours, I got you, whatever you need. But right now, you gotta get the fuck up outta my house.*

Rue : I know you have something, Fez.
(00:38:14 – 00:39:03) Episode 2

Rue chooses to disobey Fezco despite his warning until the man for whom they are waiting to do the shady business transaction arrives and completes the transaction. At that time, as soon as Rue saw the individual Fezco had described as dangerous, she sensed dread and anxiety. In spite of this, he made a concerted effort to maintain his composure, despite the fact that the possibly dangerous individual was sat just next to him. The deal went smoothly until the potentially dangerous individual offered Fezco another type of medicine, which Fezco respectfully denied. He also urged Rue to try the medicine, demonstrating that he had not ran out of ideas. Even Fezco lied when he stated that Rue did not use drugs at the time he made that claim. However, he pays no heed to Fezco and continues to offer Rue the opportunity to try it. By shaking his head, Fezco indicates to Rue that she should not attempt anything. On the other hand, Rue, who was pressured at the time, was required to try it. Rue parted the blades of her lips so that she might eat the drop of liquid medication perched on the tip of the small knife. She did so with extraordinary care.

After then, the narcotics that Rue had just tried caused her to become tremendously high. After a few moments had passed, Rue softly fell into a pleasant slumber and closed her eyes. Fezco is compelled to contact Rue's best friend, Jules. Jules was upset since she did not wish to lose Rue after learning this information. To avoid the same issue, Jules attempted to persuade her that she no longer desired to be friends with someone who was suicidal and wanted to take their lives. Jules cautions Rue against ever again engaging in drug use. When Jules informs Rue that she is not permitted to use drugs, Rue's superego begs her to comply with her request. As a result of being warned about the regulation by a third party, she is attempting to abstain from illegal drug use. Because the ego does not wish to defy the instructions of the super ego, it makes the deliberate decision to refrain from drug usage. This is Rue's method for keeping a cordial relationship with Jules and discouraging Jules from holding anger against her. As evidenced by the following dialogues:

Jules : I'm not kidding, Rue. I'm not trying to become best friends with someone who's gonna fucking kill themselves.

Rue : I know. I didn't mean to do this.

Jules : I've been through, like enough traumatic shit in my life that I don't... I can't like...

Rue : I get it. I get it.

Jules : I don't want to be around you if you don't stop using drugs.

Rue : Okay. Jules : I mean it.

Rue : I know. I'll stop. I promise.

(00:11:08 – 00:11:58) Episode 3

In other situations, Rue's personality structure appears to be well-balanced, and she acts as if she were a typical individual. Those days, however, did not last long. After a violent disagreement with Jules, Jules distances himself from her. Due to the fact that Jules does not attend school, Rue experiences a range of emotions for her, particularly worry. She decides to apologize to her at her residence. When Rue arrived at Jules' residence, she wasted no time and went directly to her room. She informed her that she does not wish to engage in a dispute with Jules due to Jules's importance to her. Rue and Jules decide to forgive one another after mending their issues through discussion. Rue's id was in charge of her ego until she gave Jules a kiss on the lips because she was so happy that they had reconciled. However, within a fraction of a second thereafter, her super ego realized that her actions were unacceptable. As soon as she realized this, she apologized once more before frantically waving farewell and departing to return home. Rue flees Jules' residence and makes a beeline for Fezco, her friend and the drug dealer's residence. Due to her overwhelming desire to forget what had just transpired, she felt the need to utilize narcotics at that moment. When she came, Fezco refused to let her inside and made no attempt to unlock the door. Fezco has made it abundantly obvious that he has no intention of aiding Rue in committing suicide. Id Rue, who dominated the personality structure, began to throw a tantrum when she was unable to obtain what she desired. The super ego is not particularly effective, and the id exerts a significant amount of control over the ego. Rue loses her temper and aggressively slams the door while throwing a tantrum. Rue's eagerness to experiment with illegal substances is so intense that she resorts to verbal abuse and threats directed against Fezco, such as the interaction below:

Fezco : I can't do it, Rue. I'm sorry.

Rue : Open the door! Open the door! Open the door! Open the door! You did this to me! You fucking... You did this to me, Fez. You fucking ruined my life! The least you could do is open the goddamned door and fix it! I'm fucking serious. I'm so fucking serious. If you don't open this door right now, I swear to God, I will hate you, till the day I fucking die.

(00:53:38 – 00:54:51) Episode 3

After the moment in which Rue has a tantrum because Fezco can no longer aid her in restarting drug use, Rue sees Ali. Ali, Rue's friend during rehabilitation. After meeting Ali, Rue has lost control of her ego. Rue feels better after conversing with Ali, and as a result, her ego is able to suppress her id, causing her to forget what she desires, as the ego desires to follow the super ego.

In addition, there is a scene in which Rue apologizes and attempts to apologize to Lexy and Fezco. This suggests that her super ego is assuming control, as she knows that her actions from the day before were unacceptable.

Rue's super ego begins to work correctly after she made a vow to Jules to stop using drugs, and Ali helps her extend her mind further than before. Since Rue's thinking has become more open, she has decided to refrain from drugs. Rue is seen playing at the night market with her sister Gia and childhood friend Lexy in a separate clip. After meeting Jules, Rue abandons her sister and her friend to spend the evening with Jules. They spent time together until Rue's mother called, at which time Rue stated she would be home with Gia by 10:00 p.m.

Rue grows concerned at this point and searches the entire night market for Gia. Rue and Jules independently resolve to look for Gia. Rue was eventually able to find Gia chatting with a bunch of boys. Rue approaches Gia immediately and extends an invitation to return home. Gia remained seated, however, until the boy next to her offered cannabis and attempted to recruit Rue. Rue's super ego at the moment controlled the ego, therefore the ego complied with the super ego's order to decline the offer.

Rue is less effective in this scenario than in earlier ones. Even though she acted slightly interested in the offer, her ego yielded to her super ego, and as soon as she rose from her seat, she raced to bring Gia home.

Rue's super ego functions exceptionally well, as seen by her reveal to her fellow rehabilitation patients. There, Rue acknowledged that she had been completely sober or clean for 13 days, which was a significant achievement for her. Because prior to that Rue was unable to relax herself without drugs.

In another scenario, Rue begins to feel uneasy as she attempts to stop using opioids. Rue was unable to urinate for several days. Despite her greatest attempts, she was incapable of urinating. Rue's id has a strong urge to use drugs again as a result of this terrible experience, but her ego continues to comply with the super ego's command to refrain from drugs until the ego is able to control the id and Rue remains drug-free.

At the end of the episode, Rue gets an increasing awareness that her tremendous anxiety is returning. As she and Jules prepare to escape the city, she is quite anxious. She was anxious because she was having thoughts about her mother and sister. Rue is anxious that if they do not hear from her, her mother and sister will seek for her. She appears

confused in this scenario, as she desires to be with Jules but also considers her mother and sister. Eventually, Rue decides to release Jules and allow her to depart the city on her own. Rue's feelings have deteriorated to the point where her id has taken control of her ego. Her id desired the peace she formerly obtained from medicines. Then, Rue's superego once again allowed her id to prevail, and she resumed drug addiction.

Rue's id ultimately gains control of her ego, however the superego regains control within moments. Due to many situational conditions, Rue's superego was unable to maintain dominance for a lengthy duration. Therefore, it restores her strength's after a period of weakness.

According to the following explanation, a person's past or present experiences and circumstances may influence his or her behavior. Because of this, Rue Bennett would likely experience the same issue. Rue's upbringing as a teenager was distinguished by unpredictable mood swings, which led to an imbalance in her personality's core components. According to the findings of this study, it is feasible to conclude that Rue's personality changes became aberrant as a result of the trauma and excessive anxiety she endured, both of which drove her to acquire opiates dependence. Rue undergoes an emotional collapse when she is unable to get the serenity she so badly desires. Several defense mechanisms, which will be explored in the next section, are employed by Rue's ego in an effort to alleviate her fear and anxiety.

❖ Defense Mechanism

As has been demonstrated previously, Rue Bennett's aggressive actions are rooted in her unbalanced personality structure. Rue Bennett's evasive approach is due to the fact that she is so focused with achieving true sobriety. In addition, he suffers from intense anxiety on a daily basis, to the point where he regularly forgets how to breathe. When the ego is threatened by uncomfortable conditions that may impede the ability's to realize its desires, Rue subconsciously triggers a defense mechanism to protect itself. Rue has developed a lot of defense mechanisms in order to cope with her anxiousness. Throughout the course of this investigation, it has become evident that Rue Bennett employs a variety of defense mechanisms to protect her ego from anxiety's effects.

Rue Bennett employs **denial** as her primary defense mechanism. As described in this film, to soothe her anxiety, she did the following. Rue chooses to disobey her superego, which advises her that using medications to self-medicate in order to ease stress is immoral

and unreasonable. Rue refuses to face the reality that obtaining sobriety through drug use is not the greatest option. Even Rue's drug supplier, Fezco, is suddenly expressing concern and providing cautions about Rue's dependence. In discussions identical to the following exchange:

Fezco : I don't know what type of fucked up shit you got going inside your head. I don't know how to help, but I could tell you one thing... The drug shit, it's not the answer.
(00:41:18 – 00:41:29) Episode 1

After hearing Fezco explain that drugs are not the solution, Rue attempts to inform him about something from the past and provides arguments to refute what Fezco said. Rue states this after Fezco explains that medicines are not the answer.

Rue : And then when I got to the hospital, they gave me liquid valium. Yeah, to calm me down. And when it hit me, I thought... This is it. This is the feeling I have been searching for my entire life, for as long as I could remember. Because suddenly, the world went quiet. And I felt safe, in my own head.
(00:42:25 – 00:43:07)

However, the words stated by Fezco had no impact on him. Rue is a stubborn individual who disregards her superego, as stated in the previous section. Rue frequently disregards her puny superego and allows her id to have entire authority over her ego. In this scenario, her id pushed her to adopt a denial attitude on the grounds that his success in life was due to drug use. Even when his superego tells him that drugs can be fatal, his desire to experiment with drugs persists.

In an alternative scenario, when Rue visits Fezco's residence for a talk, she is forced to remain in the sick grandmother's room. She dismisses the sounds and visions she sees. Consequently, she quickly fled the room and left Fezco's apartment without delay.

She disregards all she sees and hears in order to obey her super ego, which commands her to stop being an addict. When the super ego was dominant, she was able to choose a different path to replace the function of medicines, although having before denied the facts and maintained that drugs were the best solution.

Rue's second anxious defense mechanism is referred to as **projection**. Rue projected a failure in her life through the drug that she herself took, as she was unable to control her enormous fear as a youngster, which caused her to forget how to breathe. This resulted in her portraying a failure with drugs in her life. The vision of Rue's imagination that she

displays while under the influence of drugs suggests that she does not wish to quit using drugs. She wishes to feel the tranquility and comfort that comes with being under the influence of narcotics at all times. Rue believes drug addiction is her only means of survival.

In addition, when she decided to stop using drugs, she presented herself as a drug-free individual. She behaved as if she hadn't taken illegal substances in sixty days. After finishing recovery, she still viewed herself as clean despite Ali's doubts. Id Rue desires compliance from her ego in order to depict herself as a former addict who has successfully abstained from drugs.

Rue views drugs as a potential source of inner peace that she has never previously experienced. Rue's id, which favors serenity, is therefore able to erase the superego in a dominant manner, making it difficult for him to stop using the substance. Rue's id is able to regain control of her ego so that her superego can satisfy her desires, despite the ego's occasional temptation to ignore the desires.

Rue's third defense mechanism or technique of self-defense is participating in **fantasy**. Rue has made countless attempts to live a regular life and start a new chapter with a more meaningful future since leaving rehabilitation. However, she has not been able to overcome the mental illness that has plagued her since she was a youngster. After experiencing euphoria for the first time as a result of taking one of the medications that put her in a high state for the first time, Rue still desires to live in her own world by abusing various substances. Specifically, she desires to feel at ease constantly.

Since beginning to feel the effects of the drug, Rue has become acclimated to the reality of her fantasy; as a result, she no longer experiences discomfort when she is in the fantasy itself. The ego will continue in this position unless it consistently obeys the id while ignoring the dictates of the superego. Rue may go into a coma if she consumes too much of her medication. Rue swings between looking to the right and left after awakening from her coma. When he saw his sister and mother sleeping peacefully, his superego took control of his ego, and he immediately felt guilty for making life difficult for those he cared about the most. Rue's id is in such a condition of deterioration throughout the scene that she no longer desires to consume drugs. A few days later, however, the superego had another period of weakness, allowing the id to recover control of the ego and induce it to consume drugs in order to satisfy its urge to indulge in drug usage.

In another scenario, Rue cannot exist in the drug-induced fantasy world if she does not use drugs. Rue's id yearns for serenity and a return to her fantasy world after a few days of abstinence. Rue continued to use drugs until her death, when she began to live in her own fantasy. Even though she was aware that her body's homeostasis was out of whack, she appeared calm.

When she enters this fantasy world, she is overjoyed because she is able to see and feel her long-deceased father. In addition, she is aware that she is having a good time with a large number of people, and it appears that Rue is having a good time in a fantasy world induced by drug use.

Rue's id has recovered its position as the primary personality attribute since her superego is not working properly. The id was able to restore its control over Rue's ego despite the fact that her superego had been dominant for a time and had been the one who had controlled the ego. Her id was able to reassert itself as a result of her superego's regaining its former weakness.

4. Conclusion

The film from the Euphoria series is the unit of analysis in this study. The protagonist of this film series is the seventeen-year-old and breathtakingly beautiful Rue Bennett. At the beginning of the story, Rue is depicted as having a mystery demeanor, being calm, empathetic, and polite with the people she loves. Due of her anxiousness, Rue has experienced personality changes. Consequently, the goal of this study is to employ Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, which is the proper theory for assessing changes in personality structure, in order to analyze the personality structure of Rue Bennett, who portrays the main character in this film series.

After doing an in-depth examination of the film, it was determined that Rue has suffered from severe anxiety since she was a youngster, to the point where her core personality structure has changed. Rue had a reoccurring dread that she would grow so anxious that she would forget how to breathe, and she was unable to conquer this issue until she realized that she could find peace through medication. Id Rue has trained herself to have perfect control over her ego in order to get rid of her anxiety as quickly as possible, and she does everything in her power to appease her when she is experiencing negative emotions. If the superego consistently instructs the ego not to take medications, Rue will continue to

endure greater pain and continue to feel nervous until it becomes impossible for her to breathe. As a result, the ego chooses to disregard the advice of the superego in order to become an addict in order to alleviate anxiety and any other negative emotions she may be experiencing. Id Rue is always dependent on the ego to alleviate anxiety and other negative emotions by doing anything without considering the rules of the superego. This is essential so that the ego can comply with id Rue. Nevertheless, throughout the course of this film, Rue exhibits some wonderful manners. At times, she exhibits her altered personality structure by demonstrating that she is able to maintain a good balance between her id, ego, and superego, just like a typical person would. This is owing to the fact that Jules, her new best friend, is extremely kind and affectionate towards her. Rue has never had a friend that treats her like Jules, so this is an entirely new experience for her. Id Rue derives a degree of pleasure from Jules's activities.

Throughout the film, Rue's ego employs a number of different defense mechanisms in an attempt to conceal her anxieties and fears. The first is known as denial, and it relates to Rue's refusal to realize that illegal drug use is unacceptable. Rue projects failure in her life by self-consuming narcotics since she has been unable to handle her enormous anxiety since childhood, when she forgot how to breathe. He believed the medicine would make him feel better about some aspect of his life. As a result, he turned to narcotics as a remedy. Because Rue hates anxiety so much, she becomes associated with drug dealers to join a world where she gets intoxicated till she forgets about her problems. Rue's id, seeking sobriety, ultimately triumphs over her weak superego and causes her to relapse as a drug addict, despite spending the summer in recovery.

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