

**Tris' Individuation Process as Seen in Veronica Roth's *Divergent***

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining the Bachelor  
Degree in English Literature



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## A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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TRIS' INDIVIDUATION PROCESS AS SEEN IN VERONICA ROTH'S  
*DIVERGENT*

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Abstract

In this research, the writer analyzes *Divergent* novel that is written by Veronica Roth. *Divergent* novel tells the story of a teenager who is different from others, she is a Divergent. The focus of this research is the main character in this novel, who is Tris. The purpose of this study is to find out how Tris achieves a process of individuation that is buried within her unconscious mind where the collective unconscious lies. To achieve individuation, Tris must reveal the archetypes that are buried within her and accept it as part of her personality. This study uses the theory of the process of individuation by C.G. Jung. To achieve individuation, a person must reveal archetypes that are placed in the unconscious mind. The results of this analysis show that Tris succeeds in revealing the archetypes with the help of some factors. Tris is able to come to terms with herself in order to achieve the individuation.

Key words: archetype, character, collective unconscious, *Divergent*, individuation process

TRIS' INDIVIDUATION PROCESS AS SEEN IN VERONICA ROTH'S  
*DIVERGENT*

Oleh: Deby Rahmayanti

Abstrak

Dalam penelitian ini, penulis meneliti sebuah novel berjudul *Divergent* yang ditulis oleh Veronica Roth yang menceritakan mengenai kisah seorang remaja yang berbeda dengan yang lain, yaitu menjadi seorang Divergent. Fokus dari penelitian ini adalah tokoh utama dalam novel ini, yaitu Tris. Tujuan dari penelitian ini yaitu untuk mencari tahu bagaimana Tris mencapai individuasi yang terletak pada alam bawah sadarnya, dimana *collective unconscious* berada. Untuk mencapai individuasi, Tris harus menyingkap *archetype* yang ada di dalam dirinya dan menerimanya sebagai bagian dari kepribadiannya. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori C. G. Jung yaitu proses individuasi. Untuk mencapai individuasi, seseorang harus menyingkap *archetype* yang terdapat di dalam alam bawah sadarnya. Hasil dari analisis ini menunjukkan bahwa Tris berhasil menyingkap *archetype* dalam dirinya dengan bantuan dari beberapa faktor yang ada di sekitarnya. Tris mampu berdamai dengan dirinya sendiri demi mencapai individuasi seutuhnya.

Kata kunci: *archetype*, *collective unconscious*, *Divergent*, karakter, proses individuasi

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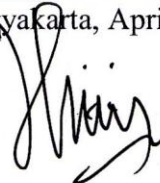
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Finally, I realize that there are some errors in writing this graduation paper. Thus, I really allow all readers to give suggestion to improve this graduating paper.

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Yogyakarta, April 21, 2015



Deby Rahmayanti



## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this graduating paper to:

**My honorable parents**

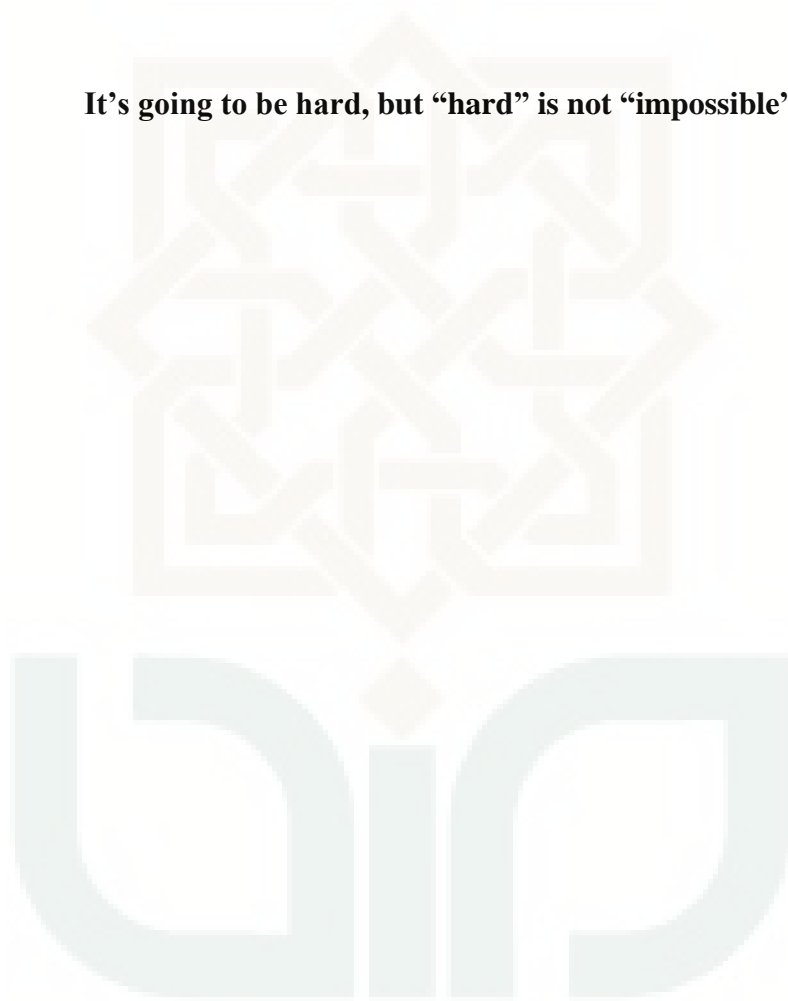
**My beloved brother**

**English Department of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta**



## MOTTO

**It's going to be hard, but “hard” is not “impossible”**



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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Study

In the *Divergent* novel, the society is divided into five factions, namely Abnegation, Dauntless, Erudite, Candor, and Amity. Each faction has a specific unique personality that must be owned by every member of the faction. Abnegation is a faction that values selfless and willing to help others. They wear gray outfits. Dauntless is a faction that values bravery; they wear black outfits. Erudite is a faction that values knowledge; they wear blue outfits. Candor is a faction that values honesty; they wear black and white outfits. Amity is a faction that values peace; they wear red and yellow outfits. Those qualities play an important role because they live according to those qualities. Every single thing they do must comply with the demands of the factions. For example, a person from Abnegation has to behave like Abnegation value, selflessness. One never thinks of oneself and is always ready to help others.

*Divergent* was written by Veronica Roth, a popular American novelist and a short story writer. She received the Goodreads 2011 Choice Award and the Best of 2012 in the category Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction and also Best Goodreads Author in 2012. She is known for her debut novel, *Divergent* trilogy. The *Divergent* trilogy consists of three books that are *Divergent*, *Insurgent*, and *Allegiant*. It is followed by a collection of stories, *Four: A Divergent Collection*

and a companion book to the *Divergent* trilogy, *The World of Divergent: The Path to Allegiant*.

*Divergent* is the first book of the *Divergent* trilogy. Originally, *Divergent* was published by HarperCollins Children's Book in 2011 in New York. Later it was published by Katherine Tegen Books. The book's cover was illustrated by Joel Tippie. The novel contains 487 pages. *Divergent* is considered as a dystopian novel by goodreads (<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13335037-divergent>). Dystopian is sometimes called as apocalyptic literature. It is about the future world which is described as something terrible and having damaged society.

The writer chooses *Divergent* because the individuation process is more visible in this novel than in the two sequels of *Divergent*, that are *Insurgent* and *Allegiant*. In *Insurgent* and *Allegiant*, those novels tell more about how Tris fights against the power held by those with higher position. Moreover, Tris also tries to find the truth behind the existence of the city and the truth about her mother.

In the *Divergent* novel, the main character is Beatrice Prior or Tris. Tris is an interesting character to be analyzed. She is unique and different from others because she has qualities that are not possessed by most people. She can be fit in some factions, not only one like the most people, because she possesses the qualities that are demanded from the factions. It makes her become a Divergent, someone who has tendencies which are different from others. Tris is still a teenager, which means she is in the stage of looking for her true self. She learns

many new things through the story. Aside from that, she must hide the fact that she is a Divergent for her own safety.

*Divergent* novel has been made into a movie. It was filmed by Summit Entertainment under the same title. The movie was directed by Neil Burger. It takes duration about 139 minutes or 2 hours 19 minutes. The movie spends about 85 million dollars. It is an interesting movie with great movie effects. Even though the movie is interesting because of the visualization of action and romance from the novel, the writer chooses the novel over the movie. The novel is the original which has more complete details. In the novel, there are some details that do not exist in the movie. Besides, there are some parts of the novel that are not filmed. One of the events which is not filmed is when Edward's eye is stabbed by Peter. Peter does this horrible thing because he is placed in the second rank while Edward is in the first place. Peter does not want another person to win over him; therefore, he eliminates anyone that stands in his way. Another reason why the writer chooses the novel instead of the movie is the novel lets the readers imagine the scenes or events that exist in the novel. The readers get the chance to visualize the scenes or events without any limits.

Human and literature cannot be separated. Literature is human product and part of human life. Humans pour their experiences, thoughts, and feelings into writing. Therefore, literature represents human life that is written on paper. Literature itself is derived from a Latin word that is *litteraturae*, which means "writing" (Abrams and Harpham, 2009: 177).

Literature allows the readers to experience scenes or events that they never experience before through literary works. Literature can “satisfy a desire for broader experience, even unpleasant experience” (Booth, Hunter, and Mays, 2006: 2). It gives them the opportunity to experience those scenes or events without experiencing those experiences in real life. Those opportunities are provided by literary works. Furthermore, the readers can learn from mistakes that are made by the characters in literary works. By learning those mistakes from literary works, the readers can avoid making the same mistakes.

Literary works come in many forms and one of them is novel. The term novel is derived from an Italian word that is *novella* which means a little new thing. Novel is a long narration that consists of variety of characters, complicated plots, description of social environment, and the development of characters and motives (Abrams and Harpham, 2009: 226). Moreover, a novel contains more details in every scene or event, and also the problems in a novel are also more complex (Nurgiyantoro, 2012: 11).

One of the elements in a novel is characters. Characters in the novels are the reflection of people in real life. Studying characters’ personalities in a novel means studying people’s personalities as well. According to Booth, Hunter, and Mays, characters may only exist in the context of the story but people can learn about real people from characters in fiction or learn to understand fictional characters in part from what people know about real people (2006: 142). The writer is interested to study the characters’ personalities in a novel because it leads to study about people’s personalities as well. The characters in literary works may

be imaginative, but they carry the real people's character traits. This provides an opportunity to understand the attitudes and behaviors of real people in real life through characters' personalities in literary works.

To study characters' personalities, the writer chooses to apply a psychology theory in literary works. One of the psychologists is Carl Gustav Jung. According to Jung, healthy individuals are those who are in contact with their conscious world and allow themselves to experience their unconscious self to achieve wholeness (Feist and Feist, 2008: 104). The unconscious itself is divided into two, those are the personal unconscious and the collective unconscious. Jung believes that each person is motivated not only by repressed experiences but also by certain emotional experiences that are inherited from the ancestors. Jung calls it as the collective unconscious. The collective unconscious consists of elements that have never been experienced individually. It is inherited from the ancestors (Feist and Feist, 2008: 98). The contents of the collective unconscious are active and it influences a person through thoughts, emotions, and actions (Feist and Feist, 2008: 104). As time goes by, the experiences that are experienced by the ancestors turn into knowledges. Those kinds of knowledge are then passed down to the next generations. Humans possess that knowledge without learning. The knowledge is buried within them.

The Holy Qur'an also discusses about the knowledge that is possessed by humans without learning it first. It is stated in Surah asy-Syams verses 7-10.

وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّيْنَاهَا ﴿٧﴾ فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا ﴿٨﴾ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَن  
 زَكَّاهَا ﴿٩﴾ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَن دَسَّاهَا ﴿١٠﴾

The verses above mean:

“And by the soul and its perfection, and He revealed to it the ways of evil and the ways of righteousness. He, indeed, prospers who purifies it, and he is ruined who corrupts it” (Farid, 1969: 1363).

The verses above explain about how Allah has inspired human souls. Providing inspiration means Allah gives potentials and abilities to human souls in order for them to know and to be able to differentiate the righteous ways and the evil ways. This inspiration comes all of a sudden without humans learning about it, even sometimes it is never thought of before. It is the knowledge which is buried within humans. With that knowledge, humans are able to differentiate which one is good and which one is bad. They are able to determine for themselves whether they want to choose the righteous ways or the evil ways (Shihab, 2006: 297-299).

As written in the Holy Qur'an, Jung also states that humans possess knowledge which is buried within them. Jung calls it as collective unconscious which contains the knowledge that is passed down by the ancestors to the next generations. The knowledge is not taught in school, it already exists within humans which is located deep inside them. What they need to do is to reveal the knowledge which then can be used to develop humans personalities (Feist and Feist, 2008: 98). The difference between what is stated in the Holy Qur'an and

Jung's collective unconscious is the source. According to the Holy Qur'an, the knowledge is inspired by Allah to the human souls. Meanwhile, according to Jung, the knowledge comes from the experiences of the ancestors which is then passed down to the next generations.

In order to analyze the Tris' personality development, this research only focuses on analyzing Tris' personality through the text. Jung's theory is used to understand the application of Jungian Psychology in literary works. In this research, the writer only uses the first novel of *Divergent* trilogy, *Divergent* novel, by Veronica Roth.

## **1.2 Research Question**

This research aims to answer the question: how does Tris reveal a process of individuation in Roth's *Divergent*?

## **1.3 Objective of Study**

Related to the research question above, the objective of this research is to analyze how Tris reveals a process of individuation.

## **1.4 Significances of Study**

Theoretically, this research can be used as an additional source or a reference about Jung's individuation process for people who study literature. Practically, this research can give understanding for students, lecturers, other researchers, or common people about the using of Jungian Psychology, especially individuation process, to analyze literary works.

## 1.5 Literature Review

The writer finds a research which also uses Roth's *Divergent*. The thesis is under the title *Translation Strategies of Pure Idioms in Veronica Roth's Divergent* by Dwi Asep Mulyono. He was a student of Dian Nuswantoro University. The research was published in 2015. Mulyono's research question is which the dominant translation strategy is applied by the translator in translating pure idioms in the novel. The theory that is used by Mulyono is Fernando's idiom classification. The difference between Mulyono's research and the writer's is Mulyono analyzes the translation of idiom in *Divergent* novel while the writer analyzes the personality of the main character in *Divergent* novel.

Moreover, the writer also finds an essay that is related to the same topic that is discussed by her, that is *Divergent* novel. The essay is written by Becky Marshall (<http://divergentessay.weebly.com/>). In her blog, she discusses the influences of the societies that are strongly impacted to the character's choices. The analysis of Marshall's essay only focuses on the societies, such as culture, morals, and social in the novel. In this research, the writer analyzes the personalities of the main character. It is different from Marshall's analysis which only discusses about societies' influence towards the main character's choices.

The writer finds a research using Jung's individuation process. The thesis is under the title *The Significance of Dreams in Revealing Emil Sinclair's Individuation as Seen in Herman Hesse' Demian: The Story of Emil Sinclair's Youth* by Winda Pradnya Paramita. She was a student of Sanata Dharma University. The research was published in 2008. Paramita's thesis has three



research questions. Those are how Sinclair's characteristic develops, how Sinclair reveals his individuation, and what the significances of dreams in Sinclair's individuation are. The theories that are used by Paramita are the theory of Character and Characterization, theory of dream and theory of individuation by Jung, and the theory of Symbol by Frye. The differences between Paramita's research and the writer's are Paramita analyzes Herman Hesse's *Demian: The Story of Emil Sinclair's Youth* while the writer analyzes Veronica Roth's *Divergent*.

## **1.6 Theoretical Approach**

### **1.6.1 Psychology of Literature**

Psychology of literature is one of the interdisciplinary studies of literature for understanding and reviewing literature using a variety of concepts and theoretical frameworks that exist in psychology (Wiyatmi, 2011: 28).

According to Wellek and Warren, psychology of literature has four possible definitions. The first is a psychology study of authors as types or as individuals. The second is a creative process study. The third is types and laws of psychology as applied to literary works. The last is a study of the influence of literature on the readers (Wellek and Warren, 2014: 81).

The first and second definitions are parts of the psychology of art that focus on the authors and their creative processes. The third definition focuses on literary works which are studied by the laws of psychology. The fourth definition focuses on the readers when they experience various psychological situations

while reading and interpreting literary works (Wiyatmi, 2011: 28). In this research, the writer analyzes a literary work using a psychology theory. Therefore, the third definition is applied in this research.

### **1.6.2 Jung's Individuation Process**

In this research, the writer uses Jung's individuation process to analyze Tris' personality. Carl Gustav Jung creates the term of the individuation process. Individuation or self-realization is the process of becoming an individual or whole person (Jung, 1939/1959, 1945/1953) (Feist and Feist, 2008: 123). Individuation is achieved by people that are able to assimilate their unconscious into their total personality (Feist and Feist, 2008: 123). To come to terms with the unconscious is a difficult process that requires courage to face "the fear of the unconscious; prevent the persona from dominating the personality; recognize the dark side of oneself (the shadow); and then muster even greater courage to face the anima or animus" (Feist and Feist, 2008: 114).

According to Jung, the conscious is something that is sensed by the ego, while the unconscious does not have relationship with the ego. The ego is the center of consciousness but it is not the center of personality (Feist and Feist, 2008: 103). Jung divided the unconscious into two, that are the personal unconscious and the collective unconscious. The personal unconscious contains repressed, forgotten, or subconscious thoughts that are experienced by a person. It contains memory and impulses that are experienced in young age, forgotten events, and experiences that have ever experienced unconsciously. It is formed by

people's individual experiences, therefore every person has different experiences. Those memories can be recalled easily or difficultly (Feist and Feist, 2008: 104).

While the personal unconscious is a result from individual experiences, the collective unconscious is derived from the ancestral in the past. The collective unconscious is "the survival of primitive forms of thought in the psyches of the members of developed culture" (Jeremy, 2000: 19). It is inherited and passed on from one generation to the next as psychic potential. The collective unconscious deals with universal concepts such as the existence of God, mother, water, earth, etc. It is transmitted from generation to generation so that everyone will be affected by the primitive experience of their ancestors (Jung, 1937/1959). Therefore, the contents of the collective unconscious are more or less the same for everyone (Jung, 1934/1959) (Feist and Feist, 2008: 104).

In their book, *Theories of Personality*, Jess Feist and Gregory J. Feist discuss Jung's archetypes. An archetype is the content of the collective unconscious. They are ancient images derived from the collective unconscious and have similarities to complexes, archetypes and complexes are emotionally toned collections of associated images. While the complexes are part of the personal unconscious component, the archetypes are part of the collective unconscious.

Archetypes are ancient or archaic images that derive from the collective unconscious. They are similar to complexes in that they are emotionally toned collections of associated images. But whereas complexes are individualized components of the personal unconscious, archetypes are

generalized and derive from the contents of the collective unconscious (Feist and Feist, 2008: 105).

Jung divides archetypes into several parts. The major archetypes are the persona, the shadow, the animus, and the self.

#### **1.6.2.1 The Persona**

The persona is the part of personality that is shown to the world. It is also called as mask because it hides the true self of a person by making a certain image. It holds a particular role on the society dictate. The society demands a certain image from a person which matches the person's role in the society (Feist and Feist, 2008: 106-107).

#### **1.6.2.2 The Shadow**

The shadow is the archetype of darkness and repressions. It represents the quality of a person who wants to be hidden from either of oneself or others. The shadow consists of morally objectionable tendencies, such as dark and sinful side of a person and the origin of animal instincts. Nevertheless, the shadow is also the sources of creative, spontaneity, and knowledge qualities (Feist and Feist, 2008: 107).

#### **1.6.2.3 The Animus**

Jung believes that all humans are psychologically bisexual and have both masculine and feminine sides (Feist and Feist, 2008: 107). The masculine side of a woman is called the animus. The animus represents for thinking and reasoning.

It is capable of influencing the thinking of a woman. The animus appears in dreams, visions, and fantasies in a personified form (Feist and Feist, 2008: 109).

#### **1.6.2.4 The Self**

Jung believes that each person possesses an inherited tendency to move forward, growth, perfection, and completion which he calls as the self. The self pulls together the other archetypes and unites them in the process of self-realization. The self symbolizes the ideas of perfection, completion, and wholeness. “It represents the strivings of the collective unconscious for unity, balance, and wholeness” (Feist and Feist, 2008: 111-112).

### **1.7 Method of Research**

#### **1.7.1 Type of Research**

The type of this research is qualitative. This method is described as a method of data collection. The writer does not do any interview or observation to collect the data. The data are collected from reference books, websites, and other sources of data. The writer searches the data by reading several books from library and websites. Therefore, this research is considered as library research.

#### **1.7.2 Data Sources**

There are two data sources, those are the main data and the supporting data. In this research, the main data is the passages which relate to the application of Jung’s individuation proces in Roth’s *Divergent*. The supporting data are some

books and internet research that are related to Roth's *Divergent* and Jung's individuation process.

### **1.7.3 Data Collection Technique**

In this research, documentation is used as the method of collecting data. Firstly, the writer does close reading to Roth's *Divergent* and also reads other references. After that, the writer takes notes of the data that are related to this research. The writer also searches the supporting data that are related to individuation in some books in the library and also from the internet.

### **1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique**

This research uses descriptive analysis. The writer analyzes the content in Roth's *Divergent* which talks about individuation process of Tris. The data are analyzed by using psychology's individuation process theory by Jung. To analyze the data, the first thing to do is the data that relate to Jung's theory of individuation are collected. After collecting the data, the writer identifies and relates the data to Tris' individuation process based on Jung's individuation process. Afterwards, the theory of individuation process is applied to analyze the data. Finally, the writer draws the conclusions from the entire discussion about Tris' individuation process in *Divergent* novel.

## **1.8 Paper Organization**

This research consists of four chapters. Chapter one is introduction. The introduction consists of background of study, research question, objective of

study, significances of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. Chapter two discusses intrinsic elements of Roth's *Divergent*. Intrinsic elements consist of characters and characterizations, setting, point of view, themes, plot, and summary. Chapter three discusses how Tris reveals her individuation process. The process is divided into four stages. Those are revelation of the persona, revelation of the shadow, revelation of the animus, and revelation of the self. Chapter four is conclusion and suggestion.



## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1 Conclusion

This research finds that Tris in *Divergent* novel must go through several stages to finally reach self-realization. Tris is born in Abnegation. She must act in accordance to what is dictated by society. She must behave in a certain way. The demands of society around Tris makes Tris to reveal the first archetype, that is the persona. The persona also appears when Tris is in Dauntless and when she meets her enemy, Jeanine Matthews.

Meeting Peter and his two friends, Molly and Drew, makes Tris' second archetype appears, that is the shadow. The dark side within Tris is revealed because Peter and his two friends force it to appear. Peter, Molly, and Drew always bully and humiliate Tris in front of many people and anytime when they have the chances. It changes Tris to be cruel, which is a part of the shadow.

Four helps Tris to reveal her third archetype, that is the animus. The animus is the masculine side within woman. Four always gives Tris advices when Tris still trains herself for the first stage of initiation process. Indirectly, Tris knows how to analyze situations and develop strategies based on the existing situations by the help of Four. Thinking and reasoning are the part of the animus. Unconsciously, Four brings the animus of Tris appear.



Tris' mother helps Tris to be aware of herself. Her mother reveals that she is a Divergent, just like Tris. The fact that her mother is a Divergent helps Tris to realize something. Being a Divergent means she is different. She does not fit in any faction. She is different from others. Tris finally can accept who she is and what she is with the help of her mother.

Through the process of individuation, Tris has lost her innocence. Her life changes drastically when she transfers to Dauntless. She changes from the innocent girl from Abnegation to someone who can face any obstacle that appears in front of her and she must be able to overcome it. Those obstacles make Tris become stronger. Through the process, she reveals her archetypes to become the whole self. Tris manages to prevent the persona to dominate her personality. She recognizes the shadow and she does not deny it. The animus takes part to develop Tris' personality. The self unites those archetypes to become one. She is aware of her own self which leads to her individuation and it makes her personality develop through the process. She is able to assimilate her unconscious into her total personality.

#### **4.2 Suggestion**

The writer realizes that this research is still far from perfection. This research only explains about Tris' individuation process in *Divergent* novel. Therefore, the writer expects some critics and suggestions from readers to improve this research.

The writer suggests for the next researchers who want to analyze Roth's *Divergent* to make new researches. Those researches for example: analyzing the symbols in Roth's *Divergent* or comparing *Divergent* novel and *Divergent* movie.



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