



**JAY GATSBY'S LOVE STRUGGLE  
IN F. SCOTT FITZGERALD'S *THE GREATGATSBY***

**A FINAL PROJECT  
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement  
For S-1 Degree in Literatures  
In English Department, Faculty of Humanities  
Diponegoro University**

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## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer states truthfully that this final project is compiled by himself without taking the results from other research in any university, in S-1, S-2, and S-3 degree and in diploma. In addition, the writer ascertains that he does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, 21 October 2017

Richie Adi Syahputra

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

Where there is love there is life

(Mahatma Gandhi)

Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fence, penetrates walls to arrive  
at its destination full of hope

(Maya Angelou)

*This project is dedicated for my family and friends.*

**APPROVAL**

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The writer realizes that this final project is still far from perfection. Thus, he will be glad and thankful to receive any constructive criticisms and recommendation to make this final project better.

Finally, the writer expects that this final project will be useful to the readers who wish to learn something about love struggle to achieve dreams by any means necessary.

Semarang, 21 October 2017

Richie Adi Syahputra

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## **ABSTRACT**

Extended Essay ini menganalisis perjuangan cinta dan karakteristiknya yang dialami karakter utama yaitu Jay Gatsby dalam novel *The Great Gatsby* karya F. Scott Fitzgerald. Jay Gatsby melakukan perjuangan cinta demi mendapatkan cinta Daisy Buchanan, wanita yang dikenalnya ketika dia hendak pergi berperang. Analisis novel ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan perjuangan cinta yang dialami Gatsby beserta karakteristik cinta yang dialaminya, dan menjelaskan tujuan utama dia melakukan perjuangan cinta tersebut. Analisis novel ini menggunakan teori perjuangan cinta dari Lisa Firestone dan karakteristik cinta menurut Zick Rubin. Metode yang digunakan dalam analisis ini adalah pendekatan psikologis dan studi pustaka. Hasil analisis essay ini menunjukkan karakteristik cinta Gatsby terhadap Daisy yaitu cara-cara Gatsby untuk mendekati dan memiliki Daisy (Attachment), kedekatan hubungan mereka berdua (Intimacy) dan pengorbanan yang dilakukan Gatsby agar Daisy merasa puas (Caring). Perjuangan cinta Gatsby yang ditemukan dalam novel ini yaitu Gatsby menjadi tentara untuk menaikkan kelasnya demi mendapatkan cinta Daisy, melakukan bisnis ilegal agar menjadi kaya dengan cepat, membeli barang-barang mewah, mendekati Daisy melalui Jordan dan Nick dan mengorbankan dirinya sendiri dalam bentuk menanggung kesalahan Daisy. Analisis tersebut menunjukkan bahwa Gatsby melakukan perjuangan cinta karena didasari rasa ingin memiliki cinta Daisy Buchanan jiwa dan raga. Hasil analisis tersebut juga menunjukkan bahwa perjuangan Gatsby berakhir sia-sia sebab dia mati tertembak dan Daisy tetap memilih untuk tinggal bersama Tom suaminya.

Kata kunci: Perjuangan cinta, Jay Gatsby, Daisy Buchanan

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Taylor (1981:46) explains that a novel is normally a prose work of quite some length and complexity which attempts to reflect and express something, equality, value of human experience, or conduct. Novel consists of imagery or fantasy characters and settings which are created by the author to make the novel more entertaining to read with complex conflict to be experienced by the characters which have a conflict in the novel. Reading a novel may give us a pleasure and entertainment because the purpose of the novel is to entertain the readers. Furthermore, novel has many kinds of genre that attract the readers by their own interest to read what kind of genre of the novel they are interested in.

In his novel, Fitzgerald portrays The American Dream that happened by the time he writes his novel *The Great Gatsby*. This novel is considered to be one of his greatest novels because of the portrayal of the 1920's in American Society as Jazz Age and The American Dream. In the novel, Gatsby fails in obtaining his dream which is to get Daisy Buchanan's love aside from become wealthy man, but he captures the essence of the American Dream by rising up out of poverty and becoming very successful in illegal ways.

Many aspects or moral value can be found when the writer analyzes this novel. The writer finds something interesting to analyze in the main character of the

novel which is a someone's struggle to be a rich man in his society in order to captivate his love. The writer uses intrinsic elements such as setting, conflict and character to support Gatsby's love struggle to prove the analysis in the novel.

## **1.2 RESEARCH PROBLEMS**

Problems that the writer is going to discuss in this essay are as follows:

1. What characteristics of love does Jay Gatsby have?
2. What kinds of love struggle that Jay Gatsby does?
3. What is the reason behind Jay Gatsby's love struggle?

## **1.3 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

By writing this essay, the writer hopes the readers to understand purpose of this essay as follow:

1. To explain characteristics of love that Jay Gatsby have
2. To explain what kinds of love struggle Jay Gatsby does
3. To explain the reason behind Jay Gatsby's love

## **1.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

In order to analyze the novel either intrinsic or extrinsic elements, theories used to analyze the novel are intrinsic theories, such as setting, conflict and character. Meanwhile, extrinsic element that the writer uses to analyze the novel is love struggle theory by Lisa Firestone and love characteristics by Zick Rubin.

## **2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **2.1 INTRINSIC ASPECTS**

#### **2.1.1 Character**

Character is an imaginary personage who acts, appears, or is referred to in a literary work. According to Kennedy (2007:74-75) a character, then, is presumably an imagined person who inhabits a story. He says there are two kinds of character in general: flat and round character. He says that “flat characters tend to stay the same throughout a story, but round characters often change—learn or become enlightened, grow or deteriorate.” Furthermore, Abrams (1999:32) mentions that “characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work.” Character is an essential part of a drama or novel that lives in the story and doing the dialogue and actions to make us understand what the novel or drama tells us about.

#### **2.1.2 Setting**

According to Abrams (1997:284) the overall setting of a narrative work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs; the setting of a single episode or scene within such a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place. Moreover, Potter (1967:27) states that “the action of the characters take place at some time, in some places, amid some things: these temporal and spatial surroundings are the setting.” Setting, generally describes, is the place where an act or event occurs.

### **2.1.3 Conflict**

Potter says that “the term “conflict” is familiar; it is the result of an opposition between at least two sides. Just as it takes two to make an argument, it takes two opposing people or forces to produce the conflict basic to a plot” (1967: 25). Those forces are divided into two, antagonist and protagonist. Antagonist is any forces mainly focus on opposing protagonist, while protagonist is the main character. Meanwhile, Wellek and Warren (1949:225) state that “conflict is "dramatic," suggests some matching of approximately equal forces, suggests action and counteraction.” In the story, there must be some actions that has done by some characters that affect other characters, and those characters who did the actions will receive counteraction/reaction from other characters responding those actions. There are many types of conflict, such as man against nature, man against man and man against society.

## **2.2 EXTRINSIC ASPECTS**

### **2.2.1 Theory of Love Characteristics**

The characteristics of love struggle can be described by Rubin in Singh (1973:405) which divides into three components: Attachment, Intimacy and Caring. Attachment means the need for close, physical contact and is recognized by the opposite sex. Intimacy refers to the relationship between two people and is indicated by the closeness and personal, secret communication only the couple know about.

Meanwhile, caring refers to the satisfaction of couples as important as the satisfaction of self.

These three components above become the reference as a characteristic struggle of one's love that is the desire to be close and get the opposite sex, a personal and secret communication, as well as the concern of sacrifice in any way, so that the partner is satisfied.

### **2.2.2 Theory of Love Struggle**

Theory used in analyzing this extended essay is based on Lisa Firestone's theory. The definition of the love struggle itself is a struggle made by a person to gain love from the opposite sex, through various means and many sacrifices made, such as quoted from Firestone:

While many of us believe we would like to be in love, we face many hurdles in taking the actions that allow love to flow freely throughout our lives and relationships. We have many ways of defending ourselves against love and can struggle to give and receive love with ease, openness and vulnerability. (Firestone, 2013, <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/compassion-matters/201312/what-it-really-means-be-in-love>, 1:3, accessed on 29 September 2017)

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that there are always obstacles and sacrifices that a person has to go through to be able to achieve the love fully from the opposite sex.

### **3. RESEARCH METHODS**

#### **3.1 Research Approach**

In connection with the background of the study in the first chapter, the writer uses psychological approach in writing this essay. Psychological approach is an approach that refers to the way of a literary work of a particular author who is thoroughly analyzed using a psychological lens. Psychological approach “deals with a work of literature primarily as an expression, in fictional form, of the state of mind and the structure of personality of the individual author” (Abrams, 1997:247). This approach psychologically analyzes the author of a work or a character from his work. It helps the reader to understand the reasons and desires of the author as well as his character.

#### **3.2 Method of Data Collection**

In analyzing love struggle in *The Great Gatsby*, the writer uses library research. Library research is data collecting techniques to conduct a study review of books, literature, records, and reports that have to do with the problems (Nazir, 1988: 111).

The writer also applies library research by reading the text and finding another information that supports the theory and analysis from other sources, such as books and internet. By using this method, the writer gains some information that can be used as supporting elements for the object discussed.

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