

**HAZEL GRACE LANCASTER'S STRUGGLES  
TO CREATE HER ESSENCE  
IN JOHN GREEN'S *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS***

**THESIS**

**BY  
DINAR UTAMI ARIATI  
NIM 115110100111033**



**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES  
UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA  
2015**

## ABSTRACT

Ariati, Dinar Utami. 2015. **Hazel Grace Lancaster's Struggles to Create Her Essence in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.** Department of Languages and Literatures. Study Program of English, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Dyah Eko Hapsari; Co-supervisor: Scarletina Vidyayani Eka.

Keywords: existentialism, concept of death, *The Fault in Our Stars*

Existentialism is a way people try to create the meaning of life. *The Fault in Our Stars* novel tells how Hazel Grace Lancaster tries to create her essence in her last stage of cancer. This study is conducted to analyze how Hazel Grace Lancaster struggles to create her essence as portrays in John Green's novel *The Fault in Our Stars*.

The writer proposes qualitative approach to describe every step which is taken by Hazel to create her essence. Existentialism approach is used to make the writer focus to answer the problem of the study. The writer also uses concept of death by Martin Heidegger to get deeper understanding of Hazel's struggles.

This study reveals that Hazel passes three stages to create her essence. First, she sees her death as a threat for the life of others. Second, she starts appreciate life regarding the consciousness that death has its positive sides and confronts with death makes Hazel realize that live is hard to achieve. Hazel also confronts with her boyfriend's death which happens unexpectedly. That problem makes Hazel reach her final stage that she knows her life will continue even though the people whom she loves already died.

For the conclusion, Hazel proves that to create her essence, she lives and stands as an individual with accepting the fact that cancer is part of her life and accepting death as the key of life. The following researchers are suggested to analyze Hazel Grace Lancaster's complexities by using psychological approach.

## ABSTRAK

Ariati, Dinar Utami. 2015. **Perjuangan Hazel Grace Lancaster untuk Menciptakan Makna Hidupnya dalam Novel *The Fault in Our Stars* Karya John Green.** Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing (I): Dyah Eko Hapsari; Pembimbing (II): Scarletina Vidyayani Eka.

Kata Kunci: eksistensialisme, konsep kematian, *The Fault in Our Stars*

Eksistensialisme adalah cara bagaimana seseorang menciptakan makna hidup. Novel *The Fault in Our Stars* menceritakan tentang perjuangan Hazel Grace Lancaster yang berusaha menciptakan makna hidupnya saat berada distadium akhir kanker tyroid. Studi ini dilakukan untuk menganalisis bagaimana perjuangan Hazel Grace Lancaster untuk menciptakan makna hidupnya yang tergambar dalam novel *The Fault in Our Stars*.

Penulis mengajukan pendekatan kualitatif untuk menjelaskan setiap langkah yang diambil Hazel untuk menciptakan makana hidupnya. Pendekatan eksistensialisme digunakan guna membuat penulis fokus untuk menjawab permasalahan penelitian. Penulis juga menggunakan konsep kematian Martin Heidegger untuk mendapat pengertian lebih dalam mengenai perjuangan Hazel.

Studi ini mengungkap bahwa Hazel sudah melewati tiga tahapan untuk menciptakan makana hidup. Pertama, dia melihat kematian sebagai ancaman bagi kehidupan orang lain. Kedua, dia mulai menghargai hidup dengan kesadaran bahwa kematian punya sisi positif dan berhadapan dengan kematian membuatnya sadar bahwa hidup sulit untuk dicapai. Hazel juga berhadapan dengan kematian kekasihnya yang tiba-tiba. Masalah tersebut membuat Hazel mencapai tahapan terakhir yaitu mengetahui bahwa hidupnya akan terus berlanjut meskipun orang yang dia cintai sudah mati.

Kesimpulannya, Hazel membuktikan bahwa untuk menciptakan makna hidup, dia harus hidup dan berdiri sebagai seorang individu dengan menerima kenyataan bahwa kanker adalah bagian dari hidupnya dan menerima kematian sebagai kunci kehidupan. Peneliti selanjutnya disarankan untuk menganalisa kompleksitas Hazel Grace Lancaster dengan menggunakan pendekatan psikologis.

## REFERENCES

- Ade, Olaofe, Isaac & Okunoye, Oyeniyi. (2008). *Eng 111 an Introduction to Literature and Literary Criticism*. Victoria Island, Lagos: National Open University of Nigeria.
- Byock, Ira. (2002). The Meaning and Value of Death. Unpublish paper presented at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation National Leadership CGA Seminar *Future End-of-Life Care: Best Ideas, Practices & Policies*, Airlie Conference Center, Warrenton, Virginia.
- Carnevale, Franco A. 2005. The Palliation of Dying: A Heideggerian Analysis of the “Technologization” of Death. *Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology, Volumes 5, Edition 1*, 1-12.
- Farin, Ingo. (2012). *Death and Responsibility: Socrates and Heidegger*. Retrieved January 23, 2015 from <http://philosophy.murdoch.edu.au/jrl/termsandconds.html>.
- Green, John. (2012). *The Fault in Our Stars*. United States: Dutton Books.
- Grene, Marjorie. 1957. *Martin Heidegger (Studies in Modern European Literature and Thought)*. Retrieved May 25, 2015 from <http://en.bookfi.org/book/1203389>.
- john green new york times bestselling author (2014). *John Green's Biography*. Retrieved October 25, 2014 from <http://johngreenbooks.com/bio-contact>.
- john green new york times bestselling author (2014). *The Fault in Our Stars TIME Magazine's # Fiction Book of The Year*. Retrieved October 25, 2014 from <http://johngreenbooks.com/the-fault-in-our-stars>.
- Levinas, Emmanuel. 1996. Martin Heidegger and Ontology. *Diacritic*, 26.1, 11-32.
- Marino, Gordon. (2004). *Basic Writing of Existentialism*. United States: Modern Library.

Ningrum, Afida, Rosdiana. (2013). *Maria's Struggles through Boundary Situations to be An Authentic Individual in Paulo Coelho's Eleven Minutes Novel*. Thesis. Malang. Universitas Brawijaya.

Panza, Christopher & Gale, Gregory. (2008). *Existentialism for Dummies*. Indianapolis, Indiana: Wiley Publishing.

Probowati, Catur, Heni. (2014). *Sophie Amundsen's Search for Existence in Jostein Gaarder's Sophie's World*. Thesis. Malang. Universitas Brawijaya.

Reynolds, Jake. (2006). *Understanding Existentialism*. East Street, Chesham: Acumen Publishing Limited.

Smith, Steve, Berry. (2012). *Death, Freedom, Isolation and Meaninglessness, and The Existential Psychotherapy of Irvin D. Yalom*. Dissertation. Auckland University of Technology.

Solaman, Shauna. (2004). *Existentialism and Phenomenology*. Retrieved November 21, 2014 from  
<http://www.bibliopedant.cc/8rha1XhbQ0Ph2cusfIKw>.

Tallis, Raymond. 2002. *A Conversation with Martin Heidegger*. New York: PALGRAVE.

\_. 2015. *Dread*. Retrieved May 25, 2015 from  
<http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Dread>.

\_. 2011. *Everyone Has His Own Stars*. Retrieved June 23, 2015 from  
<http://www.heavenletters.org/everyone-has-his-own-star.html>.