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Traumatic Experiences in William Faulkner's *The Sound and The Fury*

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**TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES IN WILLIAM
FAULKNER'S *THE SOUND AND THE FURY***

*This undergraduate thesis is submitted as partial fulfilment to obtain
Bachelor Degree at English Department Faculty of Cultural
Sciences Catholic University of Saint Thomas Medan*



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FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF SAINT THOMAS
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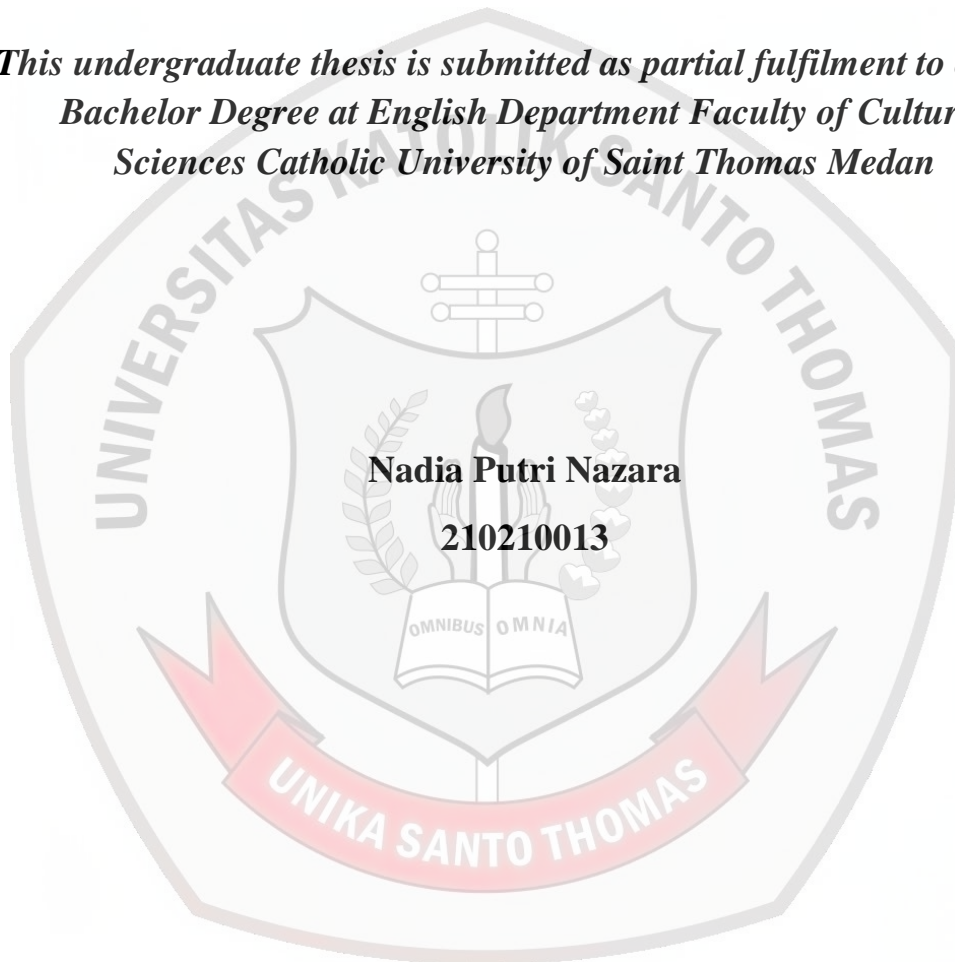
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Solemnly declare that this thesis entitled "**Traumatic Experiences In William Faulkner's *The Sound And The Fury***" is my own work, free from plagiarism. Quotations are referenced in accordance with scientific writing ethics that apply. If it is proven that this thesis contains plagiarism deemed to have violated the rules, I am willing to accept sanctions for the act in accordance with the applicable regulations.

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Nadia Putri Nazara

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Grateful praise to the Almighty God for His grace and mercy, the writer has successfully completed the thesis entitled **Traumatic Experiences In William Faulkner's *The Sound And The Fury***. This thesis is submitted as one of the requirements to obtain a Bachelor's degree in English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Catholic University of Saint Thomas Medan.

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The writer hopes that this thesis will be beneficial to the field of English Department. The writer acknowledge that this thesis is far from perfect. Therefore, constructive feedback and criticism from readers are welcomed.

Medan, 25 June 2025

The Writer

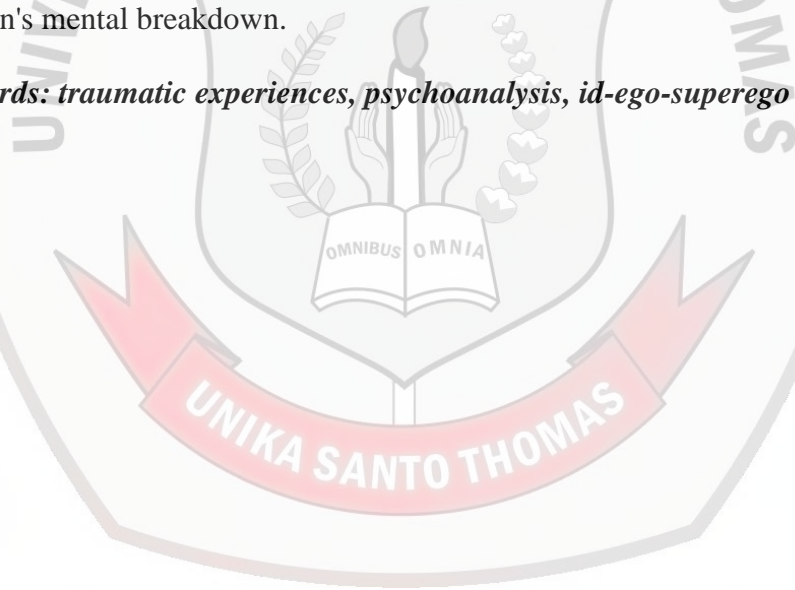
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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the traumatic experiences of the main character, Quentin Compson, in *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner using a psychoanalytic approach developed by Sigmund Freud, specifically the concepts of the id, ego, and superego. This study also focuses on identifying the types of trauma faced by Quentin and studying how conflicts within his personality structure impact his mental state. The method used is descriptive qualitative. Data collection was conducted through several steps, namely in-depth reading, marking relevant quotes, studying supporting theories, and filtering the data to select the most appropriate textual evidence. Data analysis used the Miles and Huberman framework, which includes data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions and verification based on Freud's psychoanalytic theory. The results of the study indicate that Quentin experienced six interrelated types of trauma: moral, existential, relational, family, identity, and social trauma. These traumas are reflected through the symbols of the pocket watch, river, and forest and are reinforced by the stream-of-consciousness narrative technique. The chaos between id drives, superego pressures, and the failure of the ego as a mediator leads to Quentin's mental breakdown.

Keywords: *traumatic experiences, psychoanalysis, id-ego-superego*



Abstrak

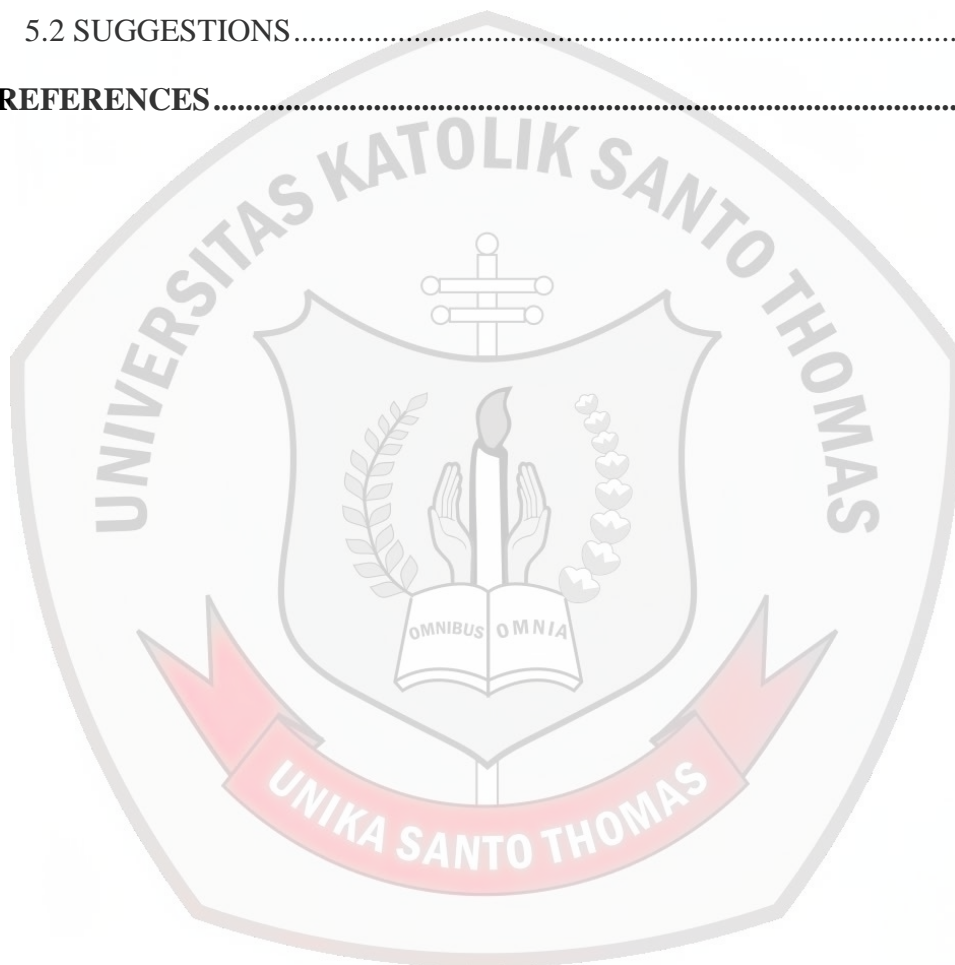
*Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengalaman traumatis tokoh utama, Quentin Compson, dalam *The Sound and the Fury* yang ditulis oleh William Faulkner menggunakan pendekatan psikoanalisis yang dikembangkan oleh Sigmund Freud, khususnya konsep id, ego, dan superego. Penelitian ini juga berfokus pada pengenalan jenis-jenis trauma yang dihadapi oleh Quentin serta mempelajari bagaimana pertentangan dalam struktur kepribadiannya berdampak pada kondisi mentalnya. Metode yang diterapkan adalah deskriptif kualitatif. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui beberapa langkah, yaitu membaca mendalam, menandai kutipan relevan, mempelajari teori pendukung, dan menyaring data untuk memilih bukti teks yang paling sesuai. Analisis data menggunakan kerangka Miles dan Huberman, yang meliputi reduksi data, penyajian data, serta penarikan kesimpulan dan verifikasi berdasarkan teori psikoanalisis Freud. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Quentin mengalami enam jenis trauma yang saling berkaitan: trauma moral, eksistensial, relasional, keluarga, identitas, dan sosial. Trauma ini tercermin melalui simbol jam saku, sungai, dan hutan serta diperkuat dengan teknik narasi aliran kesadaran. Ketidakseimbangan antara dorongan id, tekanan superego, dan kegagalan ego sebagai penengah berujung pada kehancuran mental Quentin.*

Kata kunci: *pengalaman traumatis, psikoanalisis, id-ego-superego*

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