

**AN ANALYSIS OF REBECCA'S MATERIALISM
IN WILLIAM THACKERAY'S
*VANITY FAIR***



**A Thesis presented to the English Department
the Faculty of Letters, Widya Mandala University
as a partial fulfillment of the requirement
for the Sarjana Degree
in English**

By

RIRIN ENDAH KRISTIANI

NIM. 21400036

Nomor Induk	510233 064
Tanggal Terbit	4 OCT 2006
No. Wisuda	2006/EA16/KR1/a
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Batas/	

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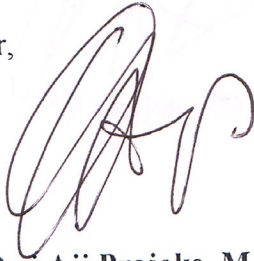
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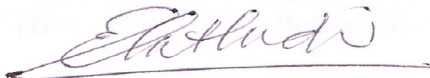
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Co-advisor,



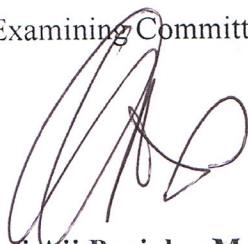
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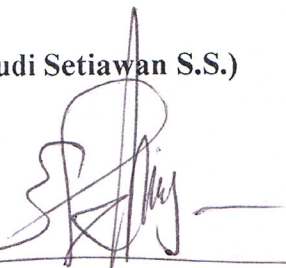
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(Eko Budi Setiawan S.S.)



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The Dean of Faculty of Letters,



(Eko Budi Setiawan S.S.)

Dedicated to:

- *My beloved parents*
- *My beloved brother*
- *My beloved friends*
- *Nanang Sulistiyono*

MOTTO:

*The only thing we have to fear is
fear itself.*

(Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933)

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Finally, I hope the reader will be interested in my thesis and this thesis will be useful for the reader.

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ABSTRACT

The writer chooses one of William Thackeray's great popular works that is *Vanity Fair*. *Vanity Fair* tells about the hard life of poor woman named Rebecca Sharp. Rebecca is at the center of the story. She lives in poverty and suffery since her childhood. Rebecca hates poverty. She determines to get the wealthy whatever the way she takes. She becomes a materialistic woman. This character will be caused of all her behaviors and influenced her love and life.

The purpose of this study is to (1) elaborate the causes of Rebecca's materialism, and (2) analyze the effects of Rebecca's materialism toward her life. In this thesis, the writer applies theory of materialism, character, cause, and effect. The writer also does library research to collect the books of relevant theories for analyzing the problem. Then, the data are analyzed descriptively based on psychological approach.

The causes of Rebecca's materialism are bad treatment toward the poor, and jealousy toward the rich. Rebecca is a poor orphan girl, so she gets bad treatment from her society. Because of the treats she becomes jealous toward rich people, who gets so much fortune. Rebecca's hard life in Chiswick Mall makes her to determine to get better life. Those strong ambitions of Rebecca Sharp bring negative effect. The effects are capital manipulation, money orientation, physical comfort, and loveless life. Rebecca becomes a woman who has no love for her family and no affection in her surrounding. Her husband and son leave her because of her ambition. But, finally she can reach what she wants although she must betray and sacrifice the people whom she loved.

ABSTRAK

Penulis mengambil salah satu novel yang berjudul *Vanity Fair*, yang ditulis oleh penulis ternama William Thackeray. Novel ini menceritakan tentang kerasnya hidup seorang wanita miskin bernama Rebecca Sharp. Rebecca merupakan tokoh utama dari cerita tersebut. Sejak kecil Rebecca hidup dalam penderitaan dan kekurangan. Rebecca benci dengan kemiskinan dan ia bertekad untuk memperoleh kekayaan apapun caranya. Dia menjadi seorang wanita yang materialistis, karakter inilah yang akan menjadi penyebab dari semua tindakannya yang egois dan juga berakibat pada hidupnya.

Tujuan tulisan yang berjudul *An Analysis of Rebecca's Materialism on William Thackeray's Vanity Fair* adalah; (1) menguraikan penyebab kematerialistikan Rebecca, (2) menjelaskan pengaruh kematerialistikan Rebecca terhadap hidupnya. Riset pustaka dilakukan untuk mencari teori tentang materialisme, karakter, sebab, and akibat. Teori tersebut lalu digunakan untuk mencari data. Penulis juga menggunakan metode kepustakaan, dimana penulis mengumpulkan buku-buku tentang teori yang berhubungan dengan masalah yang dianalisis. Untuk mengolah data yang diperoleh, penulis menggunakan metode deskriptif dan pendekatan psikologis.

Penyebab dari kematerialistikan Rebecca diantaranya, (1) perlakuan yang buruk terhadap orang miskin, dan (2) kecemburuan terhadap orang kaya. Rebecca mendapat perlakuan yang buruk dari lingkungannya karena dia adalah gadis yatim piatu dan miskin. Dari perbedaan perlakuan tersebut timbul kecemburuan Rebecca terhadap orang kaya yang selalu mendapat banyak keberuntungan. Hidup keras yang dialaminya di Chiswick Mall membuat dia berkeinginan memperbaiki hidupnya. Keinginannya yang kuat membawa akibat yang buruk bagi dirinya. Akibat dari kematerialistikan Rebecca diantaranya; penggunaan kecantikan dan kepintaran, setelah mempunyai banyak uang dia menjadi suka foya-foya dan pergi ke pesta-pesta kalangan atas dan gemar memakai perhiasan juga berlian, akibat yang terakhir adalah Rebecca tidak memiliki cinta dalam hidupnya. Suami dan anaknya meninggalkan dia karena ambisi buruknya. Tetapi akhirnya, dia dapat meraih apa yang dia inginkan meskipun dia harus mengkhianati dan mengorbankan orang-orang yang dicintainya.

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