THE REFLECTION OF THE AUTHOR’S LIFE ON THE CHARACTERS’ LIFE IN HARPER LEE’S TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

THESIS

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2013
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THESIS

A thesis presented to English Department Faculty of Letters Jember University As one of the requirement to obtain The award of Sarjana Sastra Degree in English studies

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DEDICATION PAGE

In the sincerity of my heart,
This thesis is dedicated for:

Mr. Nasuwi and Mrs. St. Kholifah
In consideration of love and Affection
Ms. Anik M. M and Ms. Umi Robithotul I.
In your smile and kindness
I love you endlessly
MOTTO

"Writing is a process of self-discipline you must learn before you can call yourself a writer. There are people who write, but I think they're quite different from people who must write."

—Harper Lee
from a 1964 interview
DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled *The Reflection of the Author’s Life on the Characters’ Life in Harper Lee’s to Kill a Mockingbird* is an original piece of writing. I certify that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publications.

I certify to the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, January 15, 2013

The Writer

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This thesis has been approved and received in front of the examination committee of English Department of Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

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Finally, may ALLAH SWT, The Most Beneficent, bless all of them for their sincere assistance and endow them with the proper virtue. At least, I do hope this thesis will be a useful contribution to the study of literature.

Jember, January 2013
Erna Dewi Rofiqoh
SUMMARY

"THE REFLECTION OF THE AUTHOR’S LIFE ON THE CHARACTERS’ LIFE IN HARPER LEE’S TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"; ERNA DEWI ROFIQOH; 050110191017; 2012; 55 pages; English Department, Faculty of letters, Jember University.

This thesis discusses To Kill a Mockingbird written by Harper Lee who uses several people around her to inspire the characters in her novel. The study of the novel concerns on the reflection of the author’s life on the characters’ life in the novel. The data used in this thesis are collected by library research and any printed materials, such as, dictionaries, books, articles, journals, and cybernetic resources. Meanwhile, mimesis and biographical criticism are used in this thesis. The method used in this thesis is inductive method. The specific data are concerned with the characters’ life in the novel as the reflection, such as, Scout, Dill, Atticus, Jem Finch, Boo Radley, and Tom Robinson. This thesis describes their characteristics and their jobs which are similar with the author and people around the author. Based on the novel, Scout lives with her brother and her father that is the reflection of the author’s life who lives with a single father. Scout also plays with Dill as her friend who lives at his aunt’s house which is the next door of Scout’s house every summer. Dill is the reflection of Truman Capote as the author’s friend in the reality who lives at his aunt’s house which is the next door of the author’s house every summer. The story also explains about Scout who meets a good man (Boo Radley) when she is injured by attack at one night after she has Halloween show. Boo Radley is Scout’s neighbor who is the reflection of the author’s neighbors. Tom Robinson and his family also enter in Scout’s life when Scout’s father defends Tom Robinson. The fictitious character...
(Tom Robinson) is inspired by several persons in the author’s reality and in this case, Tom Robinson’s character is a product of the author’s creativity.

The result of the study in this thesis shows that there are similarities between the author’s life and the characters’ life in the novel particularly in the characteristics and the activities.
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