



**AN ANALYSIS OF MITCHELL Y. MCDEERE'S DILEMMATIC  
DECISION MAKING IN JOHN GRISHAM'S *THE FIRM***

**THESIS**

A thesis Presented to the Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University  
as One of the Requirements to Get the Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree  
in English Department.

Written by:

**EVI FARIDHATUR ROHMAH  
NIM. 080110101064**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
JEMBER UNIVERSITY  
2011**

## DEDICATION PAGE

With all my heart, I dedicate my thesis to:

- ❖ My beloved father, Muchdori Muhajjir, and My beloved mother, Siti Asiyah Umar, who have given me strength, full support, affection, sacrifices and endless prayer. Thank you for everything. I am sorry for all the tear and pain I have given you both. I do love you with all my heart.
- ❖ My elder brother, M. Firdaus Assidiqi. We always share our happiness and sorrow together. Thank you for your attention, understanding, and for being my good brother.
- ❖ My dearest adoration, M. Iwan Satriawan, S.H, M.H. All of the things we have shared together make me understand, how to love and to sacrifice for everything important in life. Thank you so much for the love and care.
- ❖ My Almamater, Jember University.

## MOTTO

"Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than to be able to decide."

( *Napoleon Bonaparte* )

"If you had one shot,  
one opportunity,  
to seize everything you ever wanted,  
one moment,  
would you capture it,  
or just let it slip..." ( *Eminem* )

## DECLARATION

I here by state that thesis entitled “*An Analysis of Mitchell Y. Mcdeere’s dilemmatic decision making in John Grisham, The Firm*” is an original piece of writing. I declare 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 sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Evi Faridhatur Rohmah

NIM: 080110101064

## APPOVAL SHEET

Approved and received by the examination committee of the English Department  
Faculty of Letters, University of Jember.

Jember, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Secretary

Chairman

Reni Kusumaningputri, S.S., M.Pd  
NIP. 132310226

Drs. Hadiri, M.A  
NIP. 194807171976031003

The Members:

1. Dra. Hj. Meilia adiana M. Pd. ( ..... )  
NIP. 195105211981032002
2. Erna Cahyawati, S.S., M. Hum. ( ..... )  
NIP. 197308271999032004
3. Drs. Moch. Ilham, M.Si ( ..... )  
NIP. 196310231990011001

Approved by  
The Dean of Faculty of Letters  
Jember University

Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A  
NIP. 195909181988021001

## SUMMARY

**An Analysis of Mitchell Y. Mcdeere's Dilemmatic Decision Making in John Grisham's *The Firm***; Evi Faridhatur Rohmah; 080110101064; 2011; 43 Pages; The English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

This thesis studies on dilemmatic decision making in John Grisham's *The Firm* because the main character of the novel has a dilemmatic problem, a situation requiring a choice between equally objectionable alternatives in one's life. Grisham presents Mitchell as being trapped in a dilemma from which he has to choose to build career in Bendini firm or to snare it by cooperation with FBI agent. On the other word, he has to decide whether he leaves his firm or not. In making a decision, he is motivated by safety needs which based on his interest. Thus, it is paramount important to recognize Mitchell's suspicion of the firm's condition in order to understand how he later builds his choice. Besides, there will be some discussions concerning why the main character gets dilemma, what the effects and how he faces his problem which brings him into a dilemmatic situation. This thesis uses psychological approach which can be used to explain fictitious character. Besides, this thesis also uses library research and inductive method as the method of analysis.

The analysis shows that the main character, Mitchell Y. Mcdeere faces two difficult choices which make him confused which one is the best for his life. In this thesis, the discovery of the previous dead partners is used as the background and the oppression of FBI Director is the only factor that leads him into dilemma. After considering the choices, Mitchell finally decides to snare the firm by cooperation with an agent in order to get protection. Further, Mitchell's problem is more difficult to solve since the people of the firm catch him walking together with FBI and sadly his cooperation is leaked. Mitchell's dilemma gives some effects to himself, person in the firm and FBI agent. At last, Mitchell is able to overcome his fear and any kinds of threats after he makes video deposition and lives in Primitive Island in Caribbean that he considers comfortable.

From the analysis, it can be concluded that people can solve their problems and fulfill their needs which have been through, however they try hard to find the way out. In addition, it is hard for people to make up their mind to do something. People who want to decide one of the two, they should think carefully since they cannot avoid the consequence of each choice. In this case, the main character of the novel is trapped in a bad position, but he fights hard to fulfill his safety needs. As a result, he is successful on both snaring the law firm and staying alive in Primitive little Island peacefully.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to God, Allah SWT, the most merciful and the most benevolence. By means of his blessing, I am able to finish this thesis, even though I have found many difficulties and obstacles in the course of composing it.

I realize that this thesis has not slipped away from carelessness, hastiness, and mistakes. Therefore, I will whole heartedly accept any suggestion, critic, and additional information to develop and improve this thesis. However, this thesis is a reflection of spirit which gives individual pride for me, because writing this thesis is the beginning of a long course toward the future.

In this opportunity, I would like to express my thanks to:

1. Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A, Dean of Faculty of Letters, and Drs. Moch Ilham, M. Si, The Head of English Department, who have given me the permission to start writing this thesis;
2. Dra. Hj. Meilia Adiana, M. Pd, who has full heart to be my first consultant;
3. Erna Cahyawati, S.S, M. Hum, who has given her time patiently to be my second consultant;
4. All lectures of English Department; who has taught me good and useful knowledge during my long academic years;
5. The librarians of university and faculty library; who has given me a chance to make use of the available facilities;
6. All of my beloved friends in English Department who I cannot mention one by one. Thank you for giving me support and favor;

Finally, may Allah SWT bless them all for their sincerity and endow them with the proper virtue. At last I do hope this thesis may give beneficial and valuable contribution for those who concern with literature.

Jember, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Writer

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Fronties piece .....	i
Dedication Page .....	ii
Motto .....	iii
Declaration .....	iv
Approval Sheet .....	v
Summary .....	vi
Acknowledgement .....	vii
Table of Content .....	ix
<b>CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Rationale .....	1
1.2 The problems to discuss .....	3
1.3 The Goals of the Study .....	3
1.4 The Method of Analysis .....	4
<b>CHAPTER II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 Literary Review .....	5
2.2 Maslow’s Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory .....	7
2.2.1 The Physiological Needs .....	8
2.2.2 The Safety Needs .....	10
2.2.3 The Belongingness and Love Needs .....	11
2.2.4 The Self-Esteem Needs .....	11
2.2.5 The Self-Actualization Needs .....	12
<b>CHAPTER III. AN ANALYSIS OF MITCHELL Y. MCDEERE’S DILEMMATIC DECISION MAKING IN JOHN GRISHAM’S <i>THE FIRM</i>.....</b>	<b>14</b>
3.1 The Secrecy of the Law Firm as the Background .....	14
3.2 The Oppression of FBI Director as the Factor Leading to Mitchell’s Dilemma .....	19

3.3	The Effects of Mitchell Y. Mcdeere’s Dilemma .....	24
3.3.1	The Conflict toward himself .....	24
3.3.2	The Conflict against Other Characters .....	31
	a. The Conflict against Devasher .....	31
	b. The Conflict against FBI Agent .....	33
3.4	The Problem solving of Mitchell Y. Mcdeere’s Dilemma....	34
	3.4.1 Making Video Deposition .....	35
	3.4.2 Living in Primitive Little Island in Caribbean .....	38
	CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSION .....	43
	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	xi
	APPENDIXES .....	xiii