



**ASHLEY'S TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE LEADING TO HER
TRAGIC LIFE IN SIDNEY SHELDON'S *TELL ME YOUR
DREAMS***

THESIS

**NURY KURNIA
NIM 060110191005**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
JEMBER UNIVERSITY**

2011



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A Thesis presented to the English Department Faculty of Letters Jember
University as one of the requirements to get the Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree
in English Study

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DEDICATION PAGES

Profoundly dedicated to:

My beloved father Achmad Sanhaji who has supported me;

My beloved mother Nur Hayati, for her pray and care;

My dearest twin sister Nury Firdausiah and my little brother Achmad

Dzulqornain Hidayatullah, for their support;

My Almamater Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

MOTTO

"Verify Allah does not consider your appearances or your wealth in (appraising you)

but He considers your hearts and your deeds."

— Musnad Ahmad ibn Hanbal, no. 8707

"In their hearts is a disease."

— Qur'an 2:10

"Truly, in the body there is a morsel of flesh, and when it is corrupt the body is

corrupt, and when it is sound the body is sound. Truly, it is the qalb [heart]."

— Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab al-Iman

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled Ashley's terrifying experience leading to her tragic life in Sidney Sheldon's *Tell Me Your Dreams* is an original piece of writing. I certify that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have not already 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,
The Writer

APPROVAL SHEET

Approved and accepted by the Examination Committee of English
Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University, on:

Day : Tuesday

Date : 31 May 2011

Place : Faculty of Letters, Jember University

The Examination Committee:

Chairman,

Secretary,

Prof. Dr. Samudji, M.A.

NIP. 194808161976031002

Dra. Supiastutik, M.Pd.

NIP. 196605141998032001

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

Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A.

NIP. 195909181988021001

SUMMARY

“ASHLEY’S TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE LEADING TO HER TRAGIC LIFE IN SIDNEY SHELDON’S TELL ME YOUR DREAM: NURY KURNIA, 060110191005; 2011: 49 PAGES; ENGLISH DEPARTEMENT, FACULTY OF LETTERS, JEMBER UNIVERSITY”

This thesis analyzes Sidney Sheldon’s novel, *Tell Me Your Dreams*. This novel tells about the causes of Terrifying Experience, a series of killing done by Ashley, and Ashley’s psychological treatment by psychiatrist. She always remembers about her father sexual abuse and it makes Ashley traumatized. Ashley kills all five people who want to have sex with her, and she castrates them. Ashley does not have memory for what she has done. Her condition is known after some doctors make investigation towards her and find that there are three personalities in Ashley’s mind, they are Ashley, Toni, and Alette. Then some doctors call Ashley’s psychological disorder “Multiple Personality Disorder “(MPD). However, this thesis does not analyze about the Multiple Personality Disorder but specifically discusses about Ashley’s terrifying experience, her psychological burden, and the process of defense mechanism in her mental conflict using Sigmund Freud’s theory of personality “Defense Mechanism”. In addition, this thesis also discusses about how Ashley’s terrifying experience leads her to tragic life.

This thesis uses psychological approach because the basic analysis is about the main character’s terrifying experience and her psychological conflict. This approach leads to defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freud. The theory helps to find the main character’s mental conflict because defense mechanism theory also studies about anxiety and repression of something. Futhermore, the method of analysis in this thesis is inductive method. It tries to analyze from specific facts to general facts.

The result of the study shows Ashley's terrifying experience that leads Ashley to tragic life. Her childhood traumatic experience and her father sexual abuse make Ashley create her other personality. Therefore, this phenomenon has a close relation with defense mechanism theory especially the anxiety, repression, reaction formation and denial. Ashley creates her other characters, they are Toni Prescott and Alette Patters in her mind, in order to secure her life. Toni is the worst one and Alette is the cooperative one. Three of them - Ashley, Toni and Alette - are very different.

Ashley tragic life is caused by her anxiety, ambition and her paranoid. In this case Ashley is only a victim of her hatred about her terrifying experience. Toni as one of Ashley's alterations brings her into tragic life.

The analysis of this thesis gives a lesson that child sexual abuse can become traumatic experience in his or her life. Hence, in adulthood he or she does not control his or her personality. Sometimes it can produce problems in his or her life. Terrifying experience will be a very dangerous thing for his or her psychological development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful who has granted His great blessing so that I am finally able to obtain a great deal of knowledge and finish writing my thesis. In composing this thesis I had to face some difficulties and was nearly down. However, there was also a great desire in my heart to finish my writing.

In this great opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude to those who are willing to help me much more than they feel. I would like to express my deep gratitude to:

1. Drs. Syamsul Anam MA, Dean of Faculty of Letters and Drs. Moch. Ilham M.Si, the Head of English Department who have given a chance and permission to write this thesis,
2. Dra. Meilia Adiana M.Pd my first advisor for her approval and guidance to compose my thesis.
3. Erna Cahyawati, S.S., M.Hum, my second advisor who has spent her time to understand and given me valuable advice, suggestion and correcting this thesis with great patient,
4. The examination committee,
5. All the lecturers of Faculty of Letters who have taught me the valuable knowledge during my study,
6. All the staffs of library of Faculty of Letters, and Central Library of Jember University.
7. All my friends at the class of 2006 of English Department and my boarding house friends. Thanks for your support.

I am grateful to all their encouragement and help, because I am sure that without them I would find many difficulties in writing this thesis and finishing the study. I believe that Allah will bless them all.

Jember,

Nury Kurnia

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