



**THE AUTHENTICITY OF PAULO COELHO'S *THE ALCHEMIST*:
A GENEALOGICAL READING ON HUMAN SUBJECT DEPARTED
FROM NIETZSCHEAN EXISTENTIALISM**

THESIS

A thesis presented to the English Department, Faculty of Letter, Jember University as one of requirement to get the award of Sarjana Sastra degree in English Studies

Written by:

Dedy Saputro Wibowo

NIM 060110101017

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTER
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I dedicate this thesis to my father for giving me much money to study in
Jember University

MOTTO

Pujangga kudu dadi badhaling hyang widhi, amedharaken paribawaning bawana*

* *Serat Kalathida* by Ranggawarsita

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled **The Authenticity of *The Alchemist*: A Genealogical Reading on Human Subject Departed from Nietzschean Existentialism** 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, June 17th, 2011

The Writer

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At last, this thesis is not a perfect one, thus criticism and suggestions are welcome.

Dedy Saputro Wibowo

SUMMARY

The Authenticity of *The Alchemist*: A Genealogical Reading on Human Subject Departed from Nietzschean Existentialism; Dedy Saputro Wibowo, 060110101017; 2006: 120 pages; English Department, Faculty of Letter, Jember University.

This thesis discusses the genealogy of human subject in *The Alchemist* departed from Nietzsche's thought. Moral philosophical approach is used because this novel contains philosophical values to explore an authentic subject - this is the main case in philosophy of existentialism. An ideal subject is described as the one who is able to choose his own position in the world, so the key word in existentialism is "becoming". The subject transforms himself into the best. Nietzsche is chosen because he is considered to give immense influences on western philosophical tradition, especially existentialism. It is guided by four problem formulations. How Nietzschean existentialism contributes in appearing existentialist idea in *The Alchemist*? This question will emerge other question about What *The Alchemist*'s existentialism is transcending Nietzschean existentialism, particularly in authenticity concept. If there any kind of new existentialism concept transcending Nietzschean concept, what kind of particular concept is conveyed by this novel. On the analysis of *The Alchemist*, it is found the authentic subject portrayed by character of Santiago undergoes a profound change in his life. From the first time, he is the student in seminary that finally finds nothing. Then, he becomes the shepherd and the last, the wanderer as well as Nietzschean metamorphoses. He tries to find the treasure. It is the metaphor for the most valuable thing in the world; the effort of finding authentic self. There are also some characteristics that make this novel rather different from the general issue in existentialism. Therefore, the comparison between other existentialist works and post-Nietzschean philosophers are conducted in order to give a distinctive feature of an authentic subject in *The Alchemist*. It is called as genealogical reading; a

method of analysis to trace the scheme of knowledge diachronically and synchronically. This analysis will find the authentic subject that can be learnt not only from pure philosophy or psychology, but from literary work also.

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