



**THE USE OF THE NARRATOR'S LANGUAGE AS  
CAMOUFLAGE: A STUDY ON VLADIMIR NABOKOV'S  
*LOLITA***

**THESIS**

**Baiq Irasti Melviana**  
**200110101049**

**JEMBER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
2006**

## **DEDICATION PAGE**

**With love and thank, this thesis is dedicated to:**

- 1. My lovely Mom and Dad, Winarti and L. Rasman**
- 2. My naughty but sweet and cute Brothers and Sister, Tami, Tiar and Hasri**
- 3. My late Grand Mother and Grand Father, B. Bidayah and L. Djamil**
- 4. My patient Grand Mother and Grand Father, Hj. B. Munah and H. E. Soeherman**
- 5. All my big family's member**
- 6. My Almamater**

## **MOTTO**

**To Err is Human, to Forgive is Divine**

**(Anonymous)\***

## **DECLARATION**

---

\* Taken from the Wise Words Book

I hereby stated that the thesis entitled “The Use of the Narrator’s Language as Camouflage: A Study on Vladimir Nabokov’s *Lolita*,” 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, 2006  
The Writer

Baiq Irasti Melviana  
000110101049

## **APPROVAL SHEET**

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

Jember, 2006

Secretary

Chairman

(Secretary)

(Chairman)

The Members:

1. (Prof. Dr. Suparmin, M.A.) ( )
2. (Drs. Hadiri, M.A.) ( )
3. (Third Examiner) ( )

**ABSTRACT**

**The Use of the Narrator's Language as Camouflage: A Study on Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*, Baiq irasti Melviana, 000110101049, 2006, 48 pages.**

Nabokov's *Lolita* is a book that deals with obsessive lust and bloody violence, sex and murder often masked by the beauty of the language. One of the interesting things of the novel is the method of forcing the reader to understand the main character through a beautiful manipulation of language. The language in this novel is used not just merely to tell a story. It has another function. It is to camouflage the reader of the novel.

This thesis analyzes the words play and the intrigues that the main character use to camouflage his behavior and his crime. What makes the language used by the narrator affects the mind of the reader and why he uses the narrative style in writing his testimonial are the problems that will discussed in this thesis. The scope of this study is bound only in the structural analysis because it is an exploration about the literary elements that mainly build the novel. They are diction, imagery and point of view. Meanwhile there are two approaches used in this thesis, those are formalistic and psychological approach.

Language is very important in our live. When we meet someone for the first time, it is through language we usually guess the character of the person that we talked to. By the language that he uses we can get our first impression about him. The language in this thesis is analyzed from its diction, imagery and point of view. Each of them has their own part in camouflaging the narrator's obsession of nymphet and his fault in murder Clare Quilty. The using of diction, imagery combines with the use of first person narrative will form a certain effect to the reader. The narrator holds every important aspect to stir the reader to what he wants. It is to show that he is a nice person. He knows that he is claimed for a case of murder. So he writes his testimonial in novel form so he can give more dramatic effect in his story. He wrote it in a jail cell. But before his court began, he was dead. In his testimony, he draws himself as an innocent man that has fooled by a little girl who has contaminated with American culture. And it is more touching for him to write it in novel form than write it in a formal form of a testimonial so he can touch the reader's deep heart. He hopes the reader as the jury of his crime will not give their judgment objectively. After they reading the story, he hopes they will use their emotion to make a decision whether he is guilty or not.

**English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Profoundly I am very grateful to Allah SWT the Supreme Being of the Universe, who has given me the most valuable bright thinking to write. With God's grace and guidance I have finally finished composing this thesis.

The other gratitude I ultimately given for they whom have been so kind to assisted me and given their contributions to complete this thesis. They are:

1. Dr. Samudji, M.A., as the dean of Faculty of Letters and Drs. Syamsul Anam, M.A., as the Head of English Department who have permitted me to begin writing this thesis.
2. Prof. Dr. Suparmin, M.A., my first advisor and Drs. Hadiri, M.A., my second advisor, my deep gratitude for your valuable suggestions, advice, patience and guidance. You have given me your precious time guiding me accomplish this thesis.
3. All the lecturers of English Department, Faculty of Letters. Without their useful subjects and knowledge given to me, I would never be able to write this thesis.
4. All the librarians at Jember University and Faculty of Letters, Petra Christian University and Sanata Dharma University who have helped me by lending the necessary books to finish this thesis.

Finally, I owe much too all my friends who have contributed their ideas in writing this thesis. And also for their friendly fellowship, encouragement, and many unforgettable sharing of experiences when we are together. Sorry for not named you here because it will take pages for me to write it.

May Allah the Most Beneficent bless them all of their assistance and endow them with the proper virtue.

Jember, 2006

Baiq Irasti Melviana

## **TABLE OF CONTENT**

<b>PAGE OF TITLE</b> .....	i
<b>DEDICATION PAGE</b> .....	ii
<b>MOTTO</b> .....	iii
<b>DECLARATION</b> .....	iv
<b>APPROVAL SHEET</b> .....	v
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	vi
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	vii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT</b> .....	viii
<b>CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION</b>	
<b>1.1 The Rationale</b> .....	1
<b>1.2 The Problem to Discuss</b> .....	3
<b>1.3 The Scope of the Study</b> .....	3
<b>1.4 The Goals of the Study</b> .....	3
<b>1.5 The Approaches to Use</b> .....	3
<b>1.6 The Method of Analysis</b> .....	4
<b>1.7 The Structure of the Thesis</b> .....	4
<b>CHAPTER II: THE BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR AND THE SYNOPSIS OF THE NOVEL</b>	
<b>2.1The Biography of Vladimir Nabokov</b> .....	6
<b>2.2 The Synopsis of Lolita</b> .....	10
<b>CHAPTER III: THE REVIEW OF RELATED LITERARY TERMS</b>	
<b>3.1 The Meaning of Narrator</b> .....	13
<b>3.2 The Meaning of Camouflage</b> .....	15
<b>3.3 The Meaning of Diction</b> .....	16
<b>3.4 The Meaning of Imagery</b> .....	17
<b>3.5 The Meaning of Point of View</b> .....	18
<b>CHAPTER IV: THE USE OF THE NARRATOR’S LANGUAGE AS CAMOUFLAGE: A STUDY ON VLADIMIR NABOKOV LOLITA</b>	



<b>4.1 The Narrator's Camouflage Through the Diction</b> .....	22
<b>4.2 The Narrator's Camouflage Through the Imagery</b> .....	29
<b>4.3 The Narrator's Camouflage Through His Point of View</b> .....	32
4.3.1 His Point of View about His Obsession of Nymphet.....	32
4.3.2 His Point of View about His Case of Murder .....	35
4.3.3 His Point of View about Lolita .....	37
4.3.4 His Point of View about Himself .....	41
<b>4.4 The Influence of the Use of the Language</b>	
<b>to the Reader's Mind</b> .....	43
<b>CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION</b> .....	47
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	