



**The Analysis on Major Characters' Defense Mechanisms in *The  
Space Between Us***

**THESIS**

**A thesis presented to the English Department Faculty of Letters Jember University as  
one of the requirements to obtain the award of Sarjana Sastra degree in English studies**

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## DEDICATION

With compliment and thankfulness, I dedicate this thesis to:

1. My father, K. Ardi Karjono, and my mother, Siti Djasimah, who have sacrificed all time and wealth for the perpetuation of my study and have trusted me in whatever major I take.
2. My sister, Niken Vitaratri, SE and her husband, Rohman, S.Pd, M.Pd. Reni Dwi Handayani, Amd and her husband who are always willing to support me through the wealth and words which they have given during my academic years.
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5. My Alma Mater.



## MOTTO

*'If you never try, you'll never know'*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Coldplay "Fix You"



## DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “The Analysis on Major Characters’ Defense Mechanisms in *The Space Between Us*” is an original piece of writing. I declare that the analysis and the research conducted 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 the thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2011

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Finally, I am fully aware that this thesis is far from perfect. Deep inside in my heart, I do hope this thesis could give readers benefits.

Jember, February 2011  
Muhammad Pandu Satria

## SUMMARY

**THE ANALYSIS ON MAJOR CHARACTERS' DEFENSE MECHANISMS IN *THE SPACE BETWEEN US*; MUHAMMAD PANDU SATRIA, 060110101034; 2011; 43 PAGES; ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FACULTY OF LETTERS, JEMBER UNIVERSITY.**

Defense mechanisms are psychological strategies by which a person reduces or avoids negative states such as conflict, frustration, anxiety and stress. There are many types of defense mechanisms such as; displacement, denial, repression, regression, rationalization, projection, reaction formation and identification. This thesis deals with the discussion of the types of defense mechanisms done by the major characters in the novel *The Space Between Us*. It also discusses the reason and the result of doing each type of defense mechanisms. Furthermore, this thesis applies psychological approach to analyze the major characters conflicts and the freuderian psychoanalysis theory is used especially psychoanalysis of defense mechanisms. The method to use in this thesis is inductive method, which is a form of reasoning from specific to general. The analysis specifically starts by reading the novel then understanding the major characters' action and stating the more specific actions, that are the defense mechanisms actions which are done by the major characters. Then, the analysis continues by drawing the general conclusion that defense mechanisms are the ways of the major characters to defend themselves from fear and anxiety. The result of the study shows that types of defense mechanisms are used by the major characters such as rationalization done, displacement done by sera, and projection done by Viraf, Regression done by Maya and others. The reason and the result of the major characters in doing defense mechanisms are to find an escape

and to get relief from the problems or conflicts that cause their anxiety. In conclusion, this thesis has a purpose to know more about defense mechanisms through major characters in the novel.





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