



**THE MAIN CHARACTER TRANSGENDER LIFE EXPERIENCE
IN JEFFREY EUGENIDES' *MIDDLESEX***

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 Studies

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DEDICATION PAGE

to all LBTTIQ and the consciousness within
to my mom for her always allow me not to be them
to bintang, bulan, and semesta and their value sisterhood

MOTTO

Biology gives you a brain. Life turns it into mind.

(Jeffrey Eugenides)*

* by Cal Stephanides from Jeffrey Eugenides (*Middlesex*, 2002: 479).

DECLARATION PAGE

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “The Main Character Transgender Life Experience in Jeffery Eugenides’ *Middlesex*” is an original piece of writing. I declare that the analysis and the result described in this thesis have never been submitted for any degrees 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, October 27th 2011

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SUMMARY

The Main Character Transgender Life Experience in Jeffery Eugenides' *Middlesex*, Agung Herliyanto, 080110101060, 2011, 48 pages, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

Novel as one of literary works is classified as a prose. It is written in the form of narrative and descriptive. *Middlesex* is a novel written by Jeffrey Eugenides published in 2002. *Middlesex* is the winner of the 2003 Pulitzer Award for Fiction.

This topic is interesting to discuss because it concerns with human choice as the attempt to look for meaning. Cal's has to choose the gender he belongs to his consciousness.

This thesis that was originally entitled "Transgender Phenomenon in Jeffery Eugenides' *Middlesex*" concerns with Cal's consciousness toward his gender identity. Consciousness as mental activity can be analyzed from the words, physical sensation and the sensation complex that give a meaning to mind and awareness. Grounded Theory is the approach purposed by Glaser that concerns to explore the data from literature to understand the consciousness of the main character phenomenon. To understand the problem of the sexual genital organ and the gender construction, Gender Study is used for the study of how gender is being constructed in the novel.

This thesis is expected to give some contributions in understanding transgender and how gender is being interpreted in society. Cal's decisions can be understood and can be seen as the pure and natural choice of life from his inner consciousness. For the organization of internal elements of this novel, the author perceives traditional Greek mythology which can be seen how he describes his point of view.

Applying some theoretical methods to study this novel is needed to get deeper comprehension why the story uses transgender and hermaphrodite as the majors problem in the novel. The goal of analyzing novel is not only to get

aesthetic aspect, but also to understand the reciprocal relation of novel and the real life. As the winner of 2003 Pulitzer Award for Fiction, *Middlesex* certainly has the purpose to deconstruct its reader's point of view toward gender and hermaphrodite and to understand why the novel arises in society.

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May He give them blessing and kindness.

I hope this thesis entitled “**The Main Character Transgender Life Experience in Jeffery Eugenides’ *Middlesex***” will give valuable contribution to those who are interested in the topic discussed.

Jember, October 27th 2011

Agung Herliyanto

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FRONTIESTPIECE	i
PAGE OF DEDICATION	ii
MOTTO	iii
DECLARATION.....	iv
APPROVAL SHEET	v
SUMMARRY	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	viii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ix
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Rationale	1
1.2 The Problems to Discuss.....	3
1.3 The Goals of the Study.....	4
1.4 The Method of Analysis	4
1.5 The Significance of the Research.....	5
CHAPTER 2: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS	7
2.1 Previous Research	7
2.2 Sociological Approach	8
2.2.1 Grounded Theory	10
2.2.2 Gender Study.....	11
a. The Term of Hermaphrodite.....	13
CHAPTER 3: THE MAIN CHARACTER TRANSGENDER LIFE	
EXPERIENCE IN JEFFREY EUGENIDES' <i>MIDDLESEX</i>	16
3.1 Pure Consciousness of the Main Character	16
3.1.1 Cal Stephanides: The Hermaphrodite	17
3.1.2 Cal the Natural Normal Male	21
3.2 “<i>Middlesex</i>”; is Offering Alternative Solution.....	28
3.2.1 Passing Occasion.....	29
3.2.2 Life-world.....	31
3.3 Limited Modal in Wide Field	35

3.3.1	The Third Generation of Greek-American.....	36
3.3.2	The Nature of Transgender	39
CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION.....		47
BIBLIOGRAPY		xi
APPENDICES		xiii
A.	The Biography of Jeffrey Eugenides	xiii
B.	The Summary o the Novel	xiii
C.	Phenomenology.....	xv
D.	Constructive Genetic.....	xviii
E.	Ethnomethodology as the variant of Phenomenology	xxi