

**GENDER NARRATIVES IN
ANTHONY DOERR'S *ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE*:
WOMEN IN AN AMERICAN WAR LITERATURE**

A THESIS

**Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Attainment of a *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Literature**



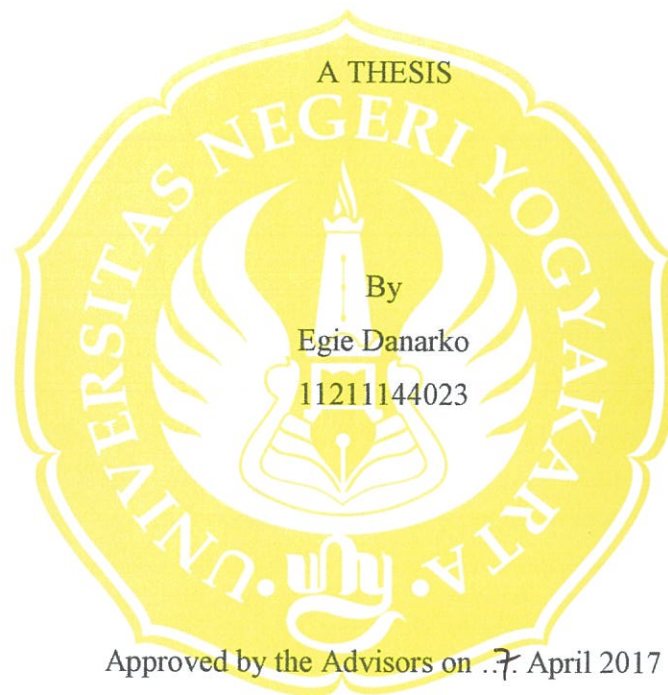
**Egie Danarko
(11211144023)**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM
ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
YOGYAKARTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

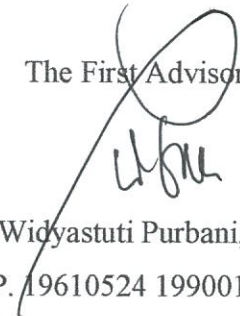
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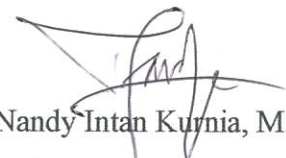
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The First Advisor,


Dr. Widyastuti Purbani, M. A.
NIP. 19610524 199001 2001

The Second Advisor,


Nandy Intan Kurnia, M. Hum
NIP. 19810626 200801 2011

RATIFICATION

GENDER NARRATIVES IN
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A THESIS




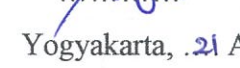
By

Egie Danarko

11211144023

Accepted by the Board of Examiners, Faculty of Languages and Arts,
Yogyakarta State University, on 21 April 2017 and Declared to Have Fulfilled the
Requirement for the Attainment of *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Literature

Board of Examiners

Name	Position	Signature	Date
Sukarno, S.Pd., M. Hum.	Chairman		20 April 2017
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Dr. Widyastuti Purbani, M.A.	Second examiner		18 April 2017

Yogyakarta, 21 April 2017

Faculty of Languages and Arts

Yogyakarta State University

Dean

Dr. Widyastuti Purbani, M.A.

NIP: 19610524 199001 2001

PERNYATAAN

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya

Nama : **Egie Danarko**

NIM : 11211144023

Program Studi : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

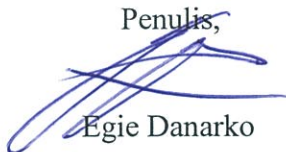
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

menyatakan bahwa karya ilmiah ini adalah hasil pekerjaan saya sendiri. Sepanjang pengetahuan saya, karya ilmiah ini tidak berisi materi yang ditulis oleh orang lain, kecuali bagian-bagian tertentu yang saya ambil sebagai acuan dengan mengikuti tata cara dan etika penulisan karya ilmiah yang lazim.

Apabila ternyata terbukti bahwa pernyataan ini tidak benar, sepenuhnya menjadi tanggung jawab saya.

Yogyakarta, 3 Maret 2017

Penulis,



Egie Danarko

DEDICATION

To my mother,

and

my family

- “To shut your eyes is to guess nothing of blindness.”

- “Only through the hottest fires can purification be achieved,
only through the harshest tests God’s chosen will rise.”

Anthony Doerr

“When it touches you, quote, let your heart speaks honesty.”

Anonymous

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Song of praises and *dua* are enchanted to God the Almighty, for without His forever argued existential power and blessings I would surely not be able to finish this research. A deep and sincere gratitude is also given to these individuals whose presence always there during my ups and downs in conducting the research;

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Finally, this research is open to flaws. Thus, any criticisms are welcomed and appreciated as knowledge is good accompanied by critics.

Yogyakarta, March 23rd 2017

Egie Danarko

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11211144023

ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to prove and explain how (1) female subordination and (2) male domination in Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See* are narrated by identifying the novel's gender narratives. The theory of poststructuralist narratology and feminist criticism on gender and war are employed to analyze the problem.

It is a qualitative research. It employed textual analysis which focused on the narrative of the text. The main source of data was Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*. The data were in the forms of words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and paragraphs depicting or implying gender narratives. The researcher used five steps in analyzing the data. The data were gathered from reading and re-reading the text, identifying those which embody gender narratives, categorizing them based on the research's objectives, comparing them to the analytical constructs, and lastly interpreting them by using feminist narratology. The researcher used triangulation and peer debriefing to obtain trustworthiness.

The results show that female subordination and male domination are found in the narratives of gender. Females are narrated as figures embodying vulnerability, fear, irrationality, emotional instability and submissive characteristic. Meanwhile, males are narrated as figures embodying power, bravery, rationality, intellectuality and heroic behavior. Those qualities embody the polarized gender narratives of men and women that endorse a patriarchal order and hierarchy. Females are seen as inferiors from the beginning of their gender creation. The construction of this dualistic gender shows the binary thought of patriarchal society. These findings conclude that gender subordination is embedded in the novel.

Key word: narratives, poststructuralist narratology, gender, feminism, war, American literature