

**A STRUGGLE FOR LOVE IN F. SCOTT FITZGERALD'S
THE GREAT GATSBY:
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Love can make people happy, sad, and angry. It makes people laugh and cry. Musbikin (2002:30) says that love is sacred. It is given by Allah, It's priceless. It means everybody deserves to love even though he or she has to struggle for it. In the struggle to find love, people's personality and life style change. People will try to be better when they meet someone that they love. Someone who is falling in love will always feel happy and trying to look better and better in front of the person that he love. He will do everything as a form of sacrifice,

Love generally includes an emotion of intense attraction to another person, a place, or thing; and may also include the aspect of caring for or finding identification with those objects, including self love. Love can be described as an intense feeling of affection, an emotion or an emotional state. In ordinary use, it usually refers to interpersonal love an experience usually felt by a person for another person. Love is essentially an abstract concept, easier to experience than to explain.

F. Scott Fitzgerald writes a story on the struggle of love. His novel is *The Great Gatsby*. This novel consists of 186 pages and tells how James Gatz or Jay Gatsby tries to win back his ex-girl friends heart, Daisy. In the past they were a couple. However, since Gatsby is a poor man, Daisy's parents did not

approve their relationship. Daisy then got married with Tom Buchanan, a rich man from the other side of America. Since that day, Gatsby made a promise to himself to change his life. His wish is that he wanted to become a rich man in order to get Daisy back. By the passing of time, Gatsby's dream comes true. He becomes a rich man. He begins to find Daisy and her husband. He finds them and builds a big house in front of the Island where Daisy and her husband live. To attract Daisy's attention, Gatsby throws parties all day long for the rich people in town. Oneday, he meet Daisy and they have an affair. There are many conflicts in the story. One of them is when Gatsby realizes that Daisy is a married woman and asks her to leave her husband. Tom himself has an affair with Mr. Wilson's wife. Without Gatsby and Daisy knowing it, Tom is aware of their relationship. He decides to make Gatsby fail.

In the end of the story, Gatsby is murdered by Mr. Wilson. He suspectes that Gatsby is responsible for his wife death and he believes that her death is not caused by an accident. Mr. Wilson knows the story from Buchanan, he said that James Gatsby is the one who killed Mrs. Wilsons.

To know more about the novel, it is better to know about the writer. The author F. Scott Fitzgerald was born on September 24.1896, on Laurel Avenue In St. Pauk, Minessota. His father was a Sourtherner and Chatholic who was running a small wicker furniture business but than work as a salesman for Protect and Gamble after the business failed. When he was only eleven year old. His father was being fired. Such condition brought him a feel of intense embarrassment that lather he uses it as the

social background of his heroes. His other novel is *this side of paradise* (1920), *the beautiful and dammed* (1922), short stories *all sad young man* (1890) and *the last Tycan* (1939).

Almost all of his literary works, novels or poems tell about an American Dream, how American people try to get his wish getting a material for his life or just having fun with other people. The real example is explored in his novel "*the great Gatsby*". This novel fully tells about how Americans try to change their lives just like their dreams. Their aim makes them become a good man, wealthy and good appearance. So, that is why the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel by using an individual psychological approach and takes a title "Struggle for Love in F. Scott Fitzgerald's "*The Great Gatsby*": an Individual Psychological Approach"

B. Literary Review

Fitzgerald is an American novelist that is very popular. As long as the writer knows, there has been other researcher who conducted a research on the novel. In his study, Kaharuddin (2000) discussed "*James Gatz Defense Mechanism in Fitzgerald the Great Gatsby*" using psychoanalytic Approach. In his problem he focused on Gatsby's defense mechanism in relation with his problem. In this opportunity the researcher decides to conduct a research on the major character's way on struggle for getting his ex- girl friend's love, and the influence that he gets because of it. Here the researcher uses an individual psychological approach.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the title and the background of the study, the main problem in this research is, “How is a struggle for love reflected in F.S Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby*?”

D. Objective of the Study

The aims of the research are follows:

1. To analyze the novel on the structural elements
2. To analyze the novel with individual psychological approach

E. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of this study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is expected to give contribution to the development of the body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby*.

2. Practical Benefit

It is expected to give a condition in literary field as reference to the other researcher in analyzing this novel particularly the students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

F. Research Method

In analyzing *The Great Gatsby* the writer searches for many data.

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

In doing this study, the writer uses two sources of data, namely primary and secondary data sources.

a. Primary Data

The primary data source is the novel itself, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data are taken from other sources which are related to the primary data such as the biography of the author, and website about *The Great Gatsby*.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The method of collecting data that the writer uses is library research. Firstly, the writer reads and comprehends the primary and secondary data source. Secondly she notes down of important information in both sources. Then, she selects them by accepting the relevant information with the problem and rejecting the irrelevant information that does not support the topic of the study. Besides that the writer uses internet to find the information about the novel and literary theory that she uses.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis or content analysis. The analysis is started on the author and then the structural analysis of the novel and finally the individual analysis of the literature.

G. Paper Organization

The paper consists of five chapters and each of them is sub divided into sub sequent division. Chapter one is the introduction that consists of background of the study, literature review, problem of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, theoretical approach and paper organization. Chapter two is the underlying theory, namely explaining about principle theory of personality. Chapter three is structural analysis; the researcher explains the structural elements of the story and discussion. Chapter four is data analysis; it presents six basic principle of an individual psychological approach. This chapter represents the application of the underlying theory in which the novel is analyzed by means of Adler's individual psychology. Finally, the last chapter integrates the overall discussion and brings it to the conclusion of the study.