

**The Underlying Causes of Hedda's Tragedy  
In Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler"**

**A THESIS**

**As a Partial fulfillment of the requirements  
For the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree  
In English Language Teaching Faculty**



**By:**

**Julienna**

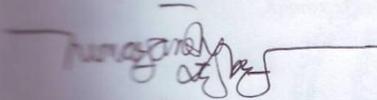
**1213009067**

**ENGLISH DEPARMENT  
FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
2013**

## APPROVAL SHEET (I)

This thesis entitled "The Underlying Causes of Hedda's Tragedy in Henrik Ibsen's Hedda Gabler" prepared and submitted by Julienna (1213009067), has been approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:

First Advisor



R. Himmawan Setyo W., M.Hum.  
NIK 121.94.0208

Second Advisor

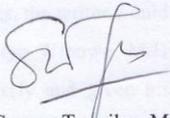


Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo., M.Pd.  
NIK 121.90.0171

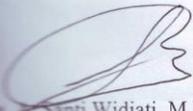
## APPROVAL SHEET

### (II)

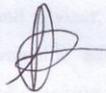
This thesis has been examined by the committee on Oral Examination with a grade of \_\_\_\_ on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.



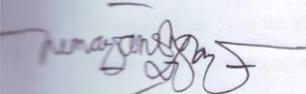
Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.  
Chairperson



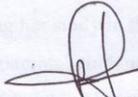
Dra. A. Sinti Widiati, M.Pd.  
Secretary



P. Hady Sutris Winarlim., M.Sc.  
Member



B. Himawan Setyo W., M.Hum.  
Member

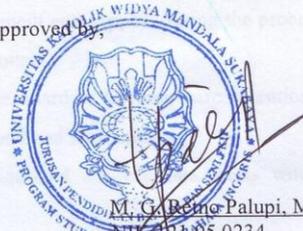


Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo., M.Pd.  
Member

Approved by,



A. V. Dede Winawan, Ph.D.  
Dean of the Faculty Teacher  
Training and Education



M. G. Reza Palupi, M.Pd.  
NIK. 19.95.0234  
Head of the English  
Department

## SURAT PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH

Demi perkembangan Ilmu Pengetahuan, saya sebagai mahasiswa Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya:

Nama Mahasiswa : *Juliana*  
Nomor Pokok : *1213009067*  
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris – Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni  
Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan  
Perguruan Tinggi : Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya  
Tanggal Lulus : *24 Juli 2013*

Dengan ini ~~SETUJU/TIDAK SETUJU~~<sup>\*)</sup> Skripsi atau Karya Ilmiah saya,

Judul: *The Underlying Causes of Hedda's Tragedy  
in Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler"*

Untuk dipublikasikan/ditampilkan di Internet atau media lain (Digital Library Perpustakaan Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya) untuk kepentingan akademik sebatas sesuai dengan Undang-undang Hak Cipta yang berlaku.

Demikian surat pernyataan ~~SETUJU/TIDAK SETUJU~~<sup>\*)</sup> publikasi Karya Ilmiah ini saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

Surabaya, *31. Juli 2013.*  
Yang menyatakan,

*Catatan:*

*\*) coret yang tidak perlu*



NRP.: *1213009067*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, the writer would like to express her deepest gratitude to the Almighty God for His love and guidance to the writer in writing and accomplishing this thesis.

Having finished this thesis, the writer would like to express her gratitude to:

1. Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum., her first advisor, who has guided the writer wisely and given his valuable comments, criticism, and time to the writer during the process of writing so that, finally the writer could accomplish this thesis.
2. Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M.Pd., her second advisor, who has guided the writer patiently and has given her valuable advices, time, and constructive comments during the process of checking the drafts so that the writer could accomplish this thesis in due time.
3. All the lecturers of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University who have taught her during her study in this university.
4. The writer's beloved parents, whose parental guidance, supports, prayers, and love for her during the process of finishing her thesis.
5. The writer's best friends, whose names cannot be mentioned one by one here, but their encouragement and support during the process of writing this thesis cannot be forgotten.
6. The writer's fellow house boarders for their care, attention, sisterhood, and support during the good and hard times.

Without their participation and support, this thesis would never be accomplished the way it is.

The writer  
Julienna

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>APPROVAL SHEET (I)</b>	i
<b>APPROVAL SHEET (II)</b>	ii
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	iii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	iv
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	vi
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objective of the Study	4
1.4 Theoretical Framework	4
1.5 Significance of the Study	5
1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study	5
1.7 Definition of the Key Terms	5
1.8 Organization of the Study	6
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE</b>	
2.1 The Nature of Drama	7
2.1.1 The Elements of Drama	9
2.1.1.1 Setting	9
2.1.1.2 Character	12
2.1.1.3 Characterization	13
2.1.1.4 Plot	15
2.1.1.5 Theme	17
2.1.2 Theory of Tragedy	19
2.1.3 Objective Theory of Literature	21
2.2 Review of Related Studies	22
<b>CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.1 Research Design	23
3.2 Subject of the Study	25
3.3 Source of the Study	25
3.4 Research Data	25
3.5 Research Instrument	26
3.6 Data Collection Procedures	26
3.7 Data Analysis Procedure	26

<b>CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION</b>	
4.1 The Causes of Tragedy Inferred from the Setting	28
4.2 The Causes of Tragedy Inferred from the Characters	31
4.3 The Causes of Tragedy Inferred from the Plot	38
4.3.1 Exposition	38
4.3.2 Rising Action	42
4.3.3 Climax	47
4.3.4 Falling Action	50
4.3.5 Resolution	55
4.4 The Causes of Tragedy Inferred from the Theme	61
<b>CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS</b>	
5.1 Conclusions	63
5.2 Suggestions	64
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	65
<b>APPENDIXES</b>	
APPENDIX I BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR	68
APPENDIX II SYPNOSIS OF HEDDA GABLER	70

## Abstract

Juliena. 2013. "The Underlying Causes of Hedda's Tragedy in Henrik Ibsen's Play Hedda Gabler." S-1 Thesis. English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabaya.

Advisors : (i) Drs. B. Himawan Setyo W., M.Hum  
(ii) Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M. Pd

*Keywords* : *Henrik Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, Drama, Causes, Tragedy.*

Literature is an art of writing by using human language. Literature can be interesting because it gives pleasure and enjoyment for the students. The writer takes drama as her study because drama contains the record of the people's values, thought, problems and conflicts. In short, it is concerned with their whole way of life. The writer chooses one of Henrik Ibsen plays, that is Hedda Gabler, one of the greatest plays of all time. It is a story about a complex character named "Hedda Gabler". She is a character that dares to defend her freedom, faith, and status as a woman at that time. The study attempts to answer the one and only research question: "What causes lead to Hedda's tragedy in Henrik Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*?" To find the causes of the tragedy that happened to the main character, the writer uses objective theory of M. H. Abrams (1953).

In conducting this study, the writer used qualitative method. She also applied the intrinsic approach that covers the elements of drama: setting, characters, plot, and theme. Thus, the researchers tried to find out the causes of the tragedy by analyzing any information related to the causes of tragedy found in the setting, characters, plot, and theme. From the analysis, it could be conclusively stated that the tragedy happening to Hedda Gabler was caused by several reasons. The first reason is that her environment has to become personally desperate. The second is Hedda the one who has the manuscript from Tesman, pretends not to know the manuscript when Lovborg tells about that. Hedda does it on purpose since she wants to have power over Lovborg and Mrs. Elvsted. However, she falls into her own trap by encouraging Lovborg to use her gun to end his life and under Brack's blackmail (sexual affair and controls over her life) so that she decides to end her life.

In the literary work, the writer finds a lot of moral values that are useful for the readers to learn for their life. The writer hopes that by understanding the drama, other researchers and readers will be more interested in reading and analyzing literature, which usually presents human values. The writer suggests that researchers and readers analyze other works by Henrik Ibsen who is the father of modern drama.