

**A STUDY OF SINS AND GUILTY FEELINGS  
IN GRAHAM GREENE'S NOVEL "THE HEART OF THE MATTER"**

**A THESIS**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in  
English Language Teaching**



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## ABSTRACT

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As human being, we sometimes feel happy and sometimes sad. We are happy when we get our dreams, get something from another person, and so on. But we will be sad if we get some problems which cannot be handled by ourselves. In studying and analyzing a literary work, we, especially students, can get some benefits, because literary works contains people's values, thought, problems, and conflicts. Our experience also broadens and deepens for literature communicates important experince.

The writer is interested in analyzing a novel in her thesis since a novel tells a long story and represents real life. The writer chooses Graham Greene, one of the most outstanding British novelists, is recognized by his competence to put his main characters in complicated situation which make them struggle hard to survive. As a devoted Catholic, he mostly involves many ideas of his faith in his novels. He derives the good and evil deeds from religious view. And his preoccupation with human sins can be found in one of his best novels, "The Heart of the Matter". For those reasons, this study tries to answer the questions: 1) What sins have been committed by the main character? 2) What result happens to the main character after he has committed sins?

To answer those questions, a practical judicial criticism is applied in this study. This criticism concerns with analyzing and explaining the effects of a work in terms of its subject, organization and techniques on the critic of individual judgements.

In analyzing the novel, the writer reads the novel several times to comprehend the story. while reading, she also underscores data from the story. The forms of the data can be in words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, dialogue or description. After that the writer begins to do the analysis.

The result of the analysis is that the main character, Scobie, who is firstly described as a good man, at last commits several sins. As a result, he feels guilty towards his wife, his duty, his servant, and most of all towards God. Committing those sins and having guilty feelings, makes Scobie's life miserably. He can not share his burden to someone else, even to his wife. Fighting with his own conscience, he finally commits suicide.

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