

**CHARACTER AND PLOT PROGRESSION IN THE STRANGE CASE OF
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE: A STUDY OF HUMAN DUALITY**

THESIS



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STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SYEKH WASIL KEDIRI**

2026

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THESIS

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By

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I here will declare that I wrote this thesis on my own and did not use any unnamed sources. Thus, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made by correct citation. This includes any thoughts taken over directly or indirectly from printed books and articles as well as all kinds of online material. It also includes my own translations from sources in a different language.

This thesis is to fulfill the requirement for the degree of Sarjana (S1) in the English Study Program, State Islamic University of Syekh Wasil Kediri.

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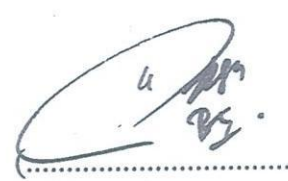
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Setelah diperbaiki materi dan susunannya sesuai dengan beberapa petunjuk dan tuntunan yang telah diberikan dalam sidang munaqosah yang dilaksanakan pada tanggal 22 Juni 2026, kami dapat menerima dan menyetujui hasil perbaikannya.

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MOTTO

"I learned to recognise the thorough and primitive duality of man."

— *Robert Louis Stevenson, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

DEDICATION

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

First of all, I would like to be grateful to Allah SWT who always gives me a bunch of blessings and opportunities when everything seems so unclear, so I can finish this thesis. Secondly, shalawat and salam always given to our amazing person on earth, Prophet Muhammad SAW who has guided us from the darkness to the lightness.

I would like to dedicate this thesis to:

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2. Prof. Dr. Hj. Munifah, M.Pd. as the Dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training.
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At least, the writer can only wish that the result of this study would be valuable and useful especially for the writer and for the reader generally. Aamiin.

Kediri, June 22nd, 2026
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ABSTRACT

Rahmadhani, Sinta. 2026. *Character And Plot Progression In The Strange Case Of Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde: A Study Of Human Duality*. An Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Language Education. Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training. State Islamic University of Syekh Wasil Kediri. Advisors: (I) Dr. Dewi Nur Suci, S.S, M.Pd. and (II) Ossa Bodhi Tala Sumanto, M.A.

Keywords: *Character Development, Human Duality, Plot Progression, Psychoanalysis, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

This study examines how human duality is represented through plot progression and character development in Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. While previous studies have mainly examined the novel from psychoanalytic or thematic perspectives, few have integrated plot progression and character development to examine human duality. Therefore, this study aims to analyze how the plot progression reveals the theme of human duality and how the characters of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde develop throughout the narrative to reflect this duality.

This research employed a qualitative descriptive method using a structural and psychoanalytic approach. The primary data consisted of narrative events, characterization, and textual excerpts selected from the novel. The analysis employed Todorov's narrative structure, Forster's characterization theory, and Freud's structural model of the psyche as an interpretive framework. Data were analyzed through micro-level and macro-level procedures to identify narrative stages, character functions, and finally psychoanalytic interpretation to see the psychological mechanisms associated with human duality.

The findings showed that the plot progression systematically represents human duality through five narrative stages: equilibrium, disruption, recognition, attempt to repair, and new equilibrium. At the macro level, the narrative followed a trajectory from latent repression to irreversible collapse, demonstrating how concealed psychological conflict gradually develops into complete self-destruction. As the narrative progresses, the increasing inability to reconcile the opposing aspects of Jekyll's identity transforms hidden internal tension into irreversible psychological fragmentation. The study also found that Dr. Jekyll functioned as a round character whose psychological complexity and internal conflict evolved throughout the narrative, whereas Mr. Hyde functioned as a flat character whose static and consistently violent nature symbolized the emergence of primitive impulses. The relationship between Jekyll and Hyde revealed a fragmented identity in which the attempt to separate opposing aspects of the self ultimately destroyed psychological balance. In conclusion, the novel portrays human duality as an inherent condition of human nature rather than a simple opposition between good and evil. The integration of Todorov's narrative structure, Forster's characterization theory, and Freud's psychoanalytic framework demonstrates that the repression and artificial separation of conflicting impulses lead not to resolution but to fragmentation, domination of the repressed self, and eventual collapse of identity.

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