

**ABSTRACT**

In literature, conflict is defined as the inherent incompatibility between the objectives of two or more characters or forces. The nature of conflict is unstable. One side must always win and one side must always lose in the end. This study is aimed to examine how setting and characters affect the conflict of the main character in *The Road* by Cormac McCarty. The qualitative approach was used in this study. In this study, the writer chose intrinsic approach as the main tool for analysis. From the discussion, it is concluded that the setting does not really affect the conflict of the main character. The major reason is that because the setting is not really explored by the author and only limited to the setting of place and time. On the other hand, the character of the main character affects most of the conflict happening to his life. There are some characters which can make the Man able to survive and bring his Son further to the South: strong, hard-heart, firm, and unyielding. This affects most of his conflicts of life and also the way to face and finally deal with those conflicts. Even though at one point he is proven also to be weak, his strong, hard-hearted, firm, and unyielding characters win over and finally save him of being lost, beaten, and dead (regardless the fact that he is told to be dead at the end of the story).

**Keywords:** *character, post-apocalyptic, safety, shelter, threatened*

**“If We Stop Trying, That Means we are no  
better than coward”  
–Bambang Pamungkas–**

# **CHAPTER I**

# **INTRODUCTION**