

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**DEALING WITH AND RECOVERING FROM TRAUMAS IN**  
**BRIAN K. VAUGHAN'S SAGA MAIN CHARACTERS: A**  
**RECOVERY NARRATIVE ANALYSIS**



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**SURABAYA**

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the  
Sarjana Degree of English Department, Faculty of Humanities,  
Universitas Airlangga**

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Brigitte Cicilya

121811233078

This thesis is dedicated to my family. Thank you for being there for me, Mom. I hope I make you proud, Dad. Also thank you to my big family who has supported me until this time.

I also want to dedicate this thesis for myself. I hope the future me will always remember this work that I poured all of my love, sweat, and tears.

**APPROVAL SHEET**

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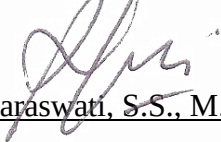
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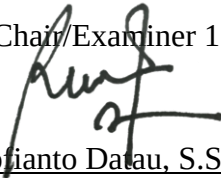
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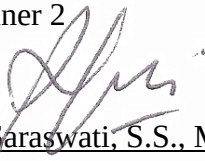
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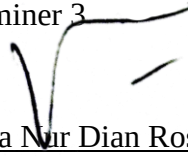
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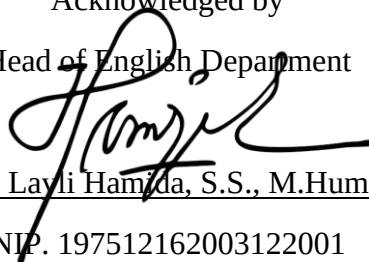


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“...but anyone who thinks one book has all the answers  
hasn't read enough books.”

- Noreen from *Saga* (Brian K. Vaughan)

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## ABSTRAK

Dalam kehidupan manusia, akan ada pengalaman kehilangan, kesedihan, dan peristiwa mengerikan yang terlalu menyakitkan sampai tinggal di pikiran selamanya. Kadang-kadang, kenangan itu dapat tetap tersimpan di alam bawah sadar dan hanya kembali ketika diingatkan atau mengalami peristiwa traumatis serupa lainnya. Trauma terlalu misterius, karena orang-orang tidak merasakan efek yang sama ketika menghadapi peristiwa serupa. Beberapa orang pulih dari trauma, beberapa tidak. Namun, melalui literatur, peristiwa traumatis dapat menjadi lebih mudah dipahami karena membuka pikiran dan telinga orang dan menjadi lebih bermakna, karena diceritakan kepada orang lain. Dalam studi ini, penulis menganalisis penggambaran cara tiga karakter *Saga* menangani dan pulih dari trauma (dari Volume satu hingga sembilan): Marko, Prince Robot IV, dan The Will/Billy. Ketiga karakter dipilih karena pengalaman mereka tentang peristiwa traumatis paling menonjol, dan mereka jelas dipengaruhi oleh peristiwa-peristiwa itu. Mereka juga mencoba untuk bertahan hidup dalam perang ruang angkasa yang tidak pernah berakhir, meskipun dengan trauma mereka. Studi ini menggunakan metode kualitatif, dan *recovery narrative theory* yang memiliki aspek untuk melihat *resilience*, *reconciliation*, dan *resistance* karakter dalam menghadapi trauma. Ketiga karakter dianalisis apakah mereka menunjukkan *resilience*, *reconciliation*, dan *resistance* terhadap trauma mereka dan proses mereka menuju pemulihan kemudian menjadi *ordinary hero*. Pada akhirnya, Marko yang pulih sepenuhnya, sementara itu Prince Robot IV tidak memiliki kesempatan untuk menyelesaikan pemulihannya, dan The Will/Billy belum pulih.

Keywords: Trauma, resilience, reconciliation, resistance, ordinary hero

## ABSTRACT

In human life, there will be experiences of loss, sadness, and horrifying events that are too painful; they stay in people's minds forever. Sometimes, the memories of those experience can remain hidden in the unconscious and only goes back to the surface when reminded or experiencing yet another similar traumatic event. Traumas are too mysterious, as people do not feel the same effects when facing a similar event. Some recover from trauma, some do not. However, through literature, traumatic events can become easier to understand as it opens people's minds and ears and become more meaningful, as they are told to others. In this study, the writer analyzes the portrayal of handling and recovering from traumas of the three characters of *Saga* (from Volume one to nine): Marko, Prince Robot IV, and The Will/Billy. The three characters are picked since their experience of traumatic events stand out the most, and they are clearly affected by those events. They are also trying to survive in a never-ending space war, albeit with their traumas. This study is using qualitative method and recovery narrative theory which is identifying character's resilience, reconciliation, and resistance towards trauma. The three characters are examined whether they demonstrate resilience, reconciliation, and resistance towards their traumas and their process towards recovery then becoming an ordinary heroes. In the end, it is Marko who recovers fully, meanwhile, Prince Robot IV does not have the chance to complete his recovery, and The Will/Billy has not recovered yet.

Keywords: Trauma, resilience, reconciliation, resistance, ordinary hero