

**THE NARRATOR'S TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE IN NEIL GAIMAN'S
*THE OCEAN AT THE END OF THE LANE***

A THESIS



By:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA**

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Submitted as partial fulfillment of requirements for the Sarjana degree of

English Department Faculty of Humanities

Universitas Airlangga Surabaya

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2016

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Surabaya, December 30th 2015

The Writer,



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DEDICATED TO

MY LOVELY MOM & MY BROTHERS

THEY ARE THE REASON OF MY STRENGTH



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"It always

seems

impossible

until

it's done"

-Nelson Mandela

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Inside Cover Page	i
Inside Title Page	ii
Declaration Page	iii
Dedication Page	iv
Advisor's Approval Page	v
Examiner's Approval Page	vi
Acknowledgements	vii
Epigraph	viii
Table of Contents	ix
Abstract	xi
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Objective of the Study	6
1.4 Significance of the Study	6
1.5 Scope and Limitation	7
1.6 Theoretical Background	7
1.7 Method of the Study	9
1.8 Definition of Key Terms	10
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW	11
2.1 Theoretical Framework	11

2.2 Formal Elements	12
2.2.1 Plot	12
2.2.2 Characterization	14
2.2.3 Symbol	15
2.3 Freud's the Stages of Development	15
2.4 Trauma	17
2.5 Review of Related Studies	19
CHAPTER III ANALYSIS	21
3.1 The Narrator's Traumatic Experience.....	21
3.1.1 The Death of the Narrator's Pet.....	29
3.1.2 Physical Abuse from the Narrator's Father.....	33
3.1.3 Emotional Abuse from the Narrator's Family Member.....	38
3.1.4 The Affair between the Narrator's Father and the Housekeeper	42
3.1.5 The Death of the Narrator's Best Friend.....	45
3.2 The Effects of the Narator's Traumatic Experience towards His Personality	48
CHAPTER 4 CONCLUSION	
Conclusion	51
Works Cited	53
APPENDIX	
Synopsis	55

ABSTRACT

There is no doubt that every human will not experience the unpleasant thing in life. When human experiencing some unpleasant things in life it can lead him to depression and finally it will traumatize him. Trauma is an experience where human feel pressured by certain circumstances and it can lead to anxiety if he experienced it continuously. The study examines the main character known as the narrator in the novel in Neil Gaiman's *The Ocean at The End of The Lane*. This study discusses the traumatic experiences in the narrator's childhood stage. New Criticism will be used as the main theory, such as the discussion of the formal elements; characterization, plot, symbol and theme. This research is a qualitative research where the data is taken from the novel *The Ocean at The End of The Lane*, journals, library research, and other sources which are suitable and appropriate in conducting the analysis. This study finds that the narrator's personality is associated with his childhood trauma. They are the death of his beloved pet, the physical abuse from his father, emotional abuse and abandonment by his family member, the affair of his father and housekeeper named Ursula Monkton and the last is the death of his best friend. By analyzing the formal elements the traumatic experience will be revealed which affects the narrator's personality.

Keywords: *Abandonment; Childhood Stage; Formal Elements, Trauma*