

**COMPARATIVE FORMALISTIC ANALYSIS OF  
MARK TWAIN'S THREE SHORT STORIES**

*(“The Story of The Bad Little Boy”, “The Story of The Good Little Boy”, and  
“Edward Mills and George Benton: A Tale”)*



**THESIS**

**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment  
of Requirements for the *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Department  
Faculty of Letters & Fine Arts Sebelas Maret University**

**by**

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MARET UNIVERSITY SURAKARTA**

**2014**

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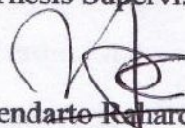
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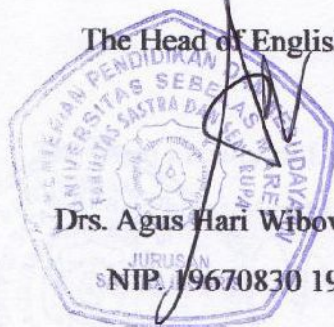
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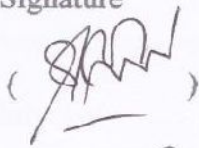



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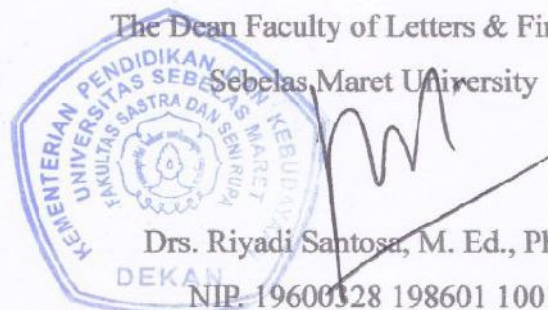
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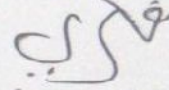
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Declare that this thesis entitled “Comparative Formalistic Analysis of Mark Twain’s Three Short Stories” is neither a plagiarism nor written by others. Any materials and theories used as references are written in direct quotation or in paraphrase. Otherwise, if it is proven that I cheat, I would take any consequences given from the Faculty of Letters and Fine Arts, Sebelas Maret University.

Surakarta, July 2014

The Researcher



Muhammad Rizal Fikry

## **Motto**

**Kecerdasan itu bukan hadiah, itu kemauan. Dan prasasti itu ditulis bukan direkam. Menulis dengan hati berbagi sampai mati**

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## DEDICATION

*To Critics who needs constructive critique*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*Alhamdulillahirobbilalamin.* Praise to Allah SWT, God of the universe who guide in the researcher's life including finishing this thesis as one of the requirements to achieve the undergraduate degree in English Department. This thesis would not be completed without contributions from others. Therefore, the researcher would like to express his gratitude, particularly to:

1. The Dean Faculty of Letters & Fine Arts, Drs. Riyadi Santosa, M.Ed., Ph.D.
2. The Head of English Department, Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A, Ph.D.
3. Drs. Hendarto Rahardjo, MA., as the researcher's thesis supervisor. Thanks for all the guides and advices.
4. My mother Sri Purwani, my sister Nurul Fitriana Naharia, my partner Nani Adilla Haqi, for the endless love and support.
5. Evi Baiturohmah, Niko Johan Tanosa, Ibnu Nurkholis, and Adiwena for the proofreading and the advices.
6. All of lecturers of English Department.
7. SKI FSSR and BEM FSSR, for the joy during the camp.
8. Faisal, Iqbal and Arya, for all the advices and jokes you gave about this thesis.
9. *Mas* Jojo, Ornella and others ED 08, for the brainstorming and sharing all this time.

Sukoharjo, July 2014

Muhammad Rizal Fikry

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## ABSTRACT

**Muhammad Rizal Fikry. C0308048. Comparative Formalistic Analysis of Mark Twain's Three Short Stories. Undergraduate Thesis. Faculty of Letters & Fine Arts. Sebelas Maret University.**

This research examines the comparative formalistic analysis of Mark Twain's three short stories. This is a qualitative research. The main data are three short stories from the book entitled *Short Stories by Mark Twain*. Related books, journals, articles, online references, and other academic writings are used as the supporting data.

The objectives of this research are to explain whether those three short stories reach its unity or not and compare the unity among those three short stories. New Criticism theory and Formalistic Approach are applied in this research. The theory focuses on the internal characteristic of the short story, examines the elements (setting, point of view, plot, style, and theme) which builds the story and avoids the external elements of the story.

New Criticism is known as a contradictory theory, but in this research, New Criticism is shown as a fully applicable theory with its own uniqueness in examining the literary works.

This research comes out with two main results. The first analysis finds out that each of those three short stories reaches its unity; the elements of fiction and the paradoxes support one and another to build one good realistic story. The second analysis, which is in the form of comparative analysis on the unity of those three short stories, finds out that there are four similarities and two differences.

Based on that comparative analysis, the values of the stories break the proverb; *they that sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind*. That proverb shows that everything has consequences, but the essence of this proverb is totally reversed in all of those short stories.

It is recommended for other researchers to do a research by using New Criticism and Formalistic Approach with other angles and themes. Despite the contradiction of the emergence of the theory, New Criticism is fully applicable theory.

**Keywords: Short story, New Criticism, Formalistic**