

**CONFLICTS AS A TRIGGER TO A RECONCILIATION IN  
FITZGERALD'S FAMILY IN THE NOVEL *MY SISTER'S KEEPER* BY  
JODI PICOULT**

**TERM PAPER**

**Submitted in part-fulfilling for obtaining**

**Strata One (S-1) Degree**



**By**

**Sifa Fauziah**

**2011130040**

**STRATA ONE (S-1) OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**FACULTY OF LETTERS**

**DARMA PERSADA UNIVERSITY**

**JAKARTA**

**2015**

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## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT PAGE

I hereby declare that the term-paper is the result of my own work, and all the sources quoted or referenced have been stated correctly.

Name : Sifa Fauziah

Reg. No. : 11130040

Signature :

Date :



## TEST FEASIBILITY APPROVAL PAGE

The term-paper submitted by:

Name : Sifa Fauziah

Reg. No. : 11130040

Study Program : English Department/Strata One Degree (S-1)

The title of the term-paper : CONFLICT AS A TRIGGER TO A  
RECONCILIATION IN FITZGERALD'S  
FAMILY IN THE NOVEL MY SISTER'S  
KEEPER BY JODI PICOULT.

has been approved by Advisor, Reader, and Head of English Department to be tested in front of the Board of Examiners on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the English Department, the Faculty of Letters, University of Darma Persada.

Advisor

.....

Dra. Karina Adinda, MA

Reader

.....

Dra. Kurnia Idawati, M.Si

Head of

English Department : .....

Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum

**APPROVAL PAGE**

The term-paper has been tested on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

By

**BOARD OF EXAMINERS**

Consisting of:

Advisor : .....  
Dra. Karina Adinda, MA

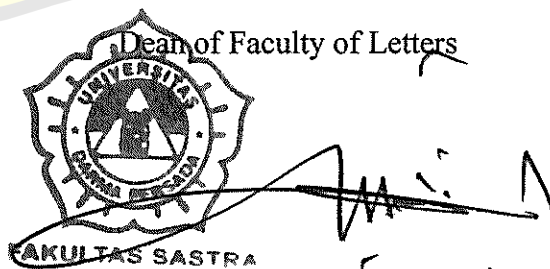
Reader : .....  
Dra. Kurnia Idawati, M.Si

Chair Person  
of Examiners : .....  
Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum

Approved on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Head of English Department

Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum



Syamsul Bachri, SS, M.Si

## PREFACE

Alhamdulillah rabbi 'aalamiin, I praise and thank to Allah SWT who has given the mercy and blesses to me to be able to finish my term paper entitled *Conflicts as a way out in the novel My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult*. This term paper is submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S1) degree.

Behind the making process of this term paper, there are many great people who always guide and support me, even when I got frustration and bored. Their advices are very helpful for me to finish this term paper.

On account of that, I would like to say a lot of gratitude to them, those great people are:

1. Dra. Karina Adinda, MA as the advisor who guided me patiently in making my term-paper, your suggestions and your help have a role important.
2. Dra. Kurnia Idawati, M.Si as the reader of my term paper.
3. Mr. Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum as the head of English department.
4. Mr. Syamsul Bachri, SS, M.Si as the Dean of faculty of letters.
5. All lecturers in Faculty of Letters, English Department. Thank you very much for teaching me English and many knowledge about literature. I will never forget it and always practice if I have a chance.
6. My beloved Family, thanks to my father, Diding Ubaidillah my mother, Halimah, my lovely sisters, Khairunnisa and Marwati Aprilla and my brother, Fariz Bayhaqi who always support and pray the best wishes for me. You all are the great people who Allah gives to me.
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Overall, I realize that this term paper is far from being perfect. I hope this term paper is useful for the readers.

Jakarta 2015

writer



Sifa Fauziah

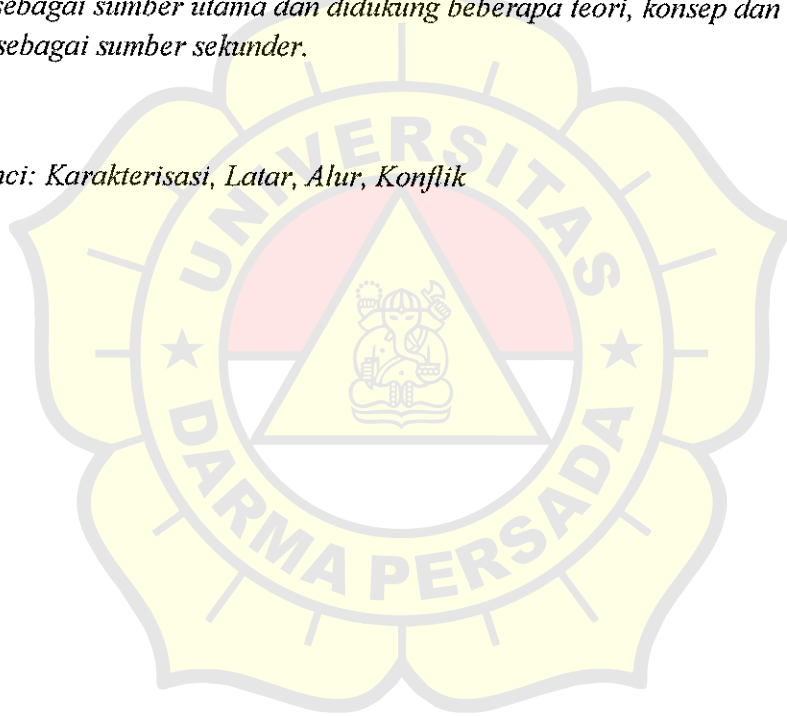


## ABSTRAK

*Nama* : Sifa Fauziah  
*Program Studi* : S-1 Sastra Inggris  
*Judul* : *Conflicts As A Trigger To A Reconciliation In Fitzgerald's Family in the Novel My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult*

*Skripsi ini membahas tentang tema karya sastra novel dengan menggunakan pendekatan intrinsik dan ekstrinsik. Melalui pendekatan intrinsik diterapkan konsep: Karakterisasi, Latar, dan Alur. Melalui pendekatan ekstrinsik yaitu Konflik oleh Lewis A Coser dan Edge & Groves. Penelitian ini adalah sebuah penelitian kualitatif, jenis penelitian kepustakaan, interpretatif/analisis dengan menggunakan metode pengumpulan data berupa teks sastra dari novel My Sister's Keeper karya Jodi Picoult sebagai sumber utama dan didukung beberapa teori, konsep dan definisi yang relevan sebagai sumber sekunder.*

*Kata kunci: Karakterisasi, Latar, Alur, Konflik*



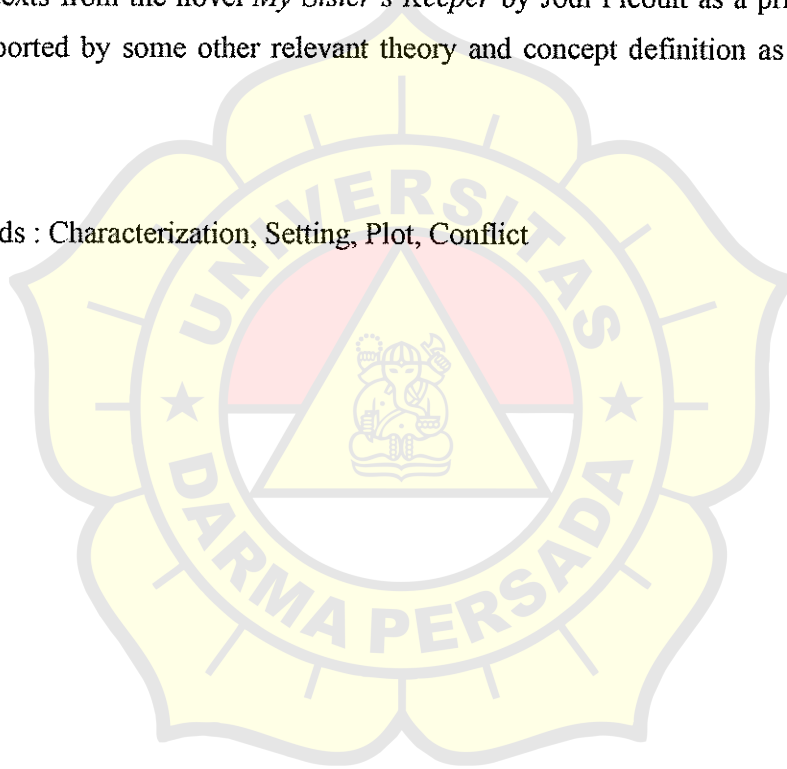


## ABSTRACT

Name : Sifa Fauziah  
Study Program : English Departement/Strata One (S-1) Degree  
Title : Conflicts As A Trigger To A Reconciliation In Fitzgerald's  
Family In The Novel *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult.

This term paper discusses about the theme of literary work of the novel using the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. The intrinsic approaches that I applied are characterization, setting, and plot. The extrinsic approach is Conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge & Groves. This study is a qualitative research, types of library research, interpretative/analysis using the method of data collection in the form of literary texts from the novel *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult as a primary source and supported by some other relevant theory and concept definition as a secondary source.

Key words : Characterization, Setting, Plot, Conflict



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## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the problem

In this world, there are many types of literature works. For the examples are poem, play, short story, and novel. Every literature work must be has purpose and meaning that the authors want to tell to the reader. Today, not only plays that could be staged but the story in the novel can also be filmed. Jodi Lynn Picoult was born on May 19, 1966 in Nesconset on Long Island in New York. She lived with her mother, father, and little brother. Her childhood was one that all parents dream of having for their children. When Jodi was 13 years old her family moved to New Hampshire. She went to Smithtown High School East and then went to Princeton University where she studied writing. In 1987, she graduated from Princeton and went on to Harvard University where she earned a master's degree in education. In 2003, Jodi was awarded the New England Bookseller Award for fictional writing.<sup>1</sup> She wrote many novels. Many of her novels were filmed. One of them is *My Sister's Keeper* which released on 2009.

In this term paper, I will analyze one of her best novel entitled *My Sister's Keeper*. This novel tells about Anna Fitzgerald's older sister, Kate, suffers from acute promyelocytic leukemia, a blood and bone marrow cancer. Anna was born as a savior sister specifically so she could save Kate's life. At first it is successful, but the cancer continues to relapse throughout Kate's life. Anna is usually willing to donate whatever Kate needs, but when she turns 13, she is told that she will have to donate one of her kidneys. The surgery required for both Kate and Anna would be major, it is not guaranteed to work, as the stress of the operation may well kill Kate anyway, and the loss of a kidney could have a serious impact on Anna's life. Anna petitions for medical emancipation with the help of lawyer Campbell Alexander, so that she will be able to make her own decisions regarding her medical treatment and the donation of her kidney. This is done on the advice of Julia Romano, the court-appointed guardian ad litem whose job it is to decide what would be best for Anna. Julia was once romantically involved with Campbell when they went to school together, but Campbell broke her heart when he left her. Unbeknown to Julia,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.paperbackswap.com/Jodi-Picoult/author/>

Campbell left her because he discovered he had epilepsy and thought she deserved better.

Meanwhile, Anna's brother Jesse, who has spent most of his life being ignored in favor of ill Kate or donor Anna, spends most of his time setting fire to abandoned buildings with home-made explosives and doing drugs. He is a self-confessed juvenile delinquent. The one moment when his parents pay him any attention is when Brian discovers that it is Jesse who has been setting the fires. Brian forgives him, and by the end of the book, he has reformed and graduated from the police academy.

During the trial, it is revealed that Kate asked Anna to sue for emancipation because she did not want Anna to have to transplant, and because she believes that she will die anyway. The judge rules in Anna's favor, and grants Campbell medical power of attorney. However, as Campbell drives her home after the trial, their car is hit by an oncoming truck. Brian, the on-call firefighter who arrives at the scene, retrieves an unconscious and injured Anna from the wreckage of the crushed car and rushes her and Campbell to hospital. At the hospital, the doctor informs Sara and Brian that Anna is brain-dead, that the machines keeping her alive may as well be switched off, and asks them if they have considered organ donation. Campbell steps in, and declares that he has the power of attorney and says that Anna would want her kidney donated to her sister. Kate is prepared for surgery, and Anna's kidney is successfully transplanted. Kate survives the surgery and remains in remission for at least six years.

The reason why I choose this novel is because I am interested in the conflicts which arise in this story. And I am interested in learning about the conflicts. The assumption that I am going to analyze from this novel is trigger to a reconciliation in Fitzgerald's family.

#### **B. Identification of Problem**

Based on background of the research above, I identify the problem that: to save Kate from Leukemia causes a lot of conflict. It starts from Anna who demanded her rights to her body until she hired a lawyer to sue her mother. Jesse became neglected in the family and it made him choose to be a troublemaker. The conflict causes guilty feeling to the character of Kate but also make this family to be harmonious. In this case the assumption of my research is: conflicts as a trigger to a reconciliation in Fitzgerald's family in the novel *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult.

### **C. Limitation of Problem**

Based on the identification of problems above, I limit the problem on the conflicts that happen in this novel as a trigger to a reconciliation in Fitzgerald's family. Theories and concepts that I use are intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. The intrinsic approaches used are point of view, characterization, plot and setting. The extrinsic approach that I use is theory of conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge & Groves.

### **D. Formulation of Problem**

Based on the limitation problems above, I formulate the problem: whether it true that I assumed the theme of this novel is conflicts as a way out? To answer this question, I formulate the problem further:

1. Can First-person participant point of view be used to analyze this novel?
2. Can the plot and settings be used to analyze this novel?
3. Can the theme developed through the study of the results of the analysis: characterization, setting and plot and the theory of conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge & Groves?

### **E. The Objective of Research**

Based on the formulation problem above, I aim to show that the theme of this novel is *Conflicts as a Trigger to a Reconciliation in Fitzgerald's Family*. To achieve this purpose I use the following steps:

1. To analyze the characterization by using the First-person participant point of view
2. To analyze the plot and settings in this novel
3. To analyze the theme by using the results of the characterization analysis, setting, and plot, combined with the theory of conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge & Groves

### **F. Framework of the Theories**

Based on the objectives of research, the theoretical framework that I use:

1. Intrinsic approach
  - a. Characterization

Characterization in literature is the process authors use to develop characters and create images of the characters for the audience. There are two different approaches to characterization, including direct characterization and indirect characterization. With the direct approach, the author tells us what he/she wants us to know about the character. With indirect characterization, the author shows us things about the character to help us have an understanding of the character's personality and effect on other characters.<sup>2</sup>

b. First-Person Participant

Sudut pandang persona pertama “aku” terdiri atas: “aku” tokoh utama atau “First-person participant” yaitu pencerita yang ikut berperan sebagai tokoh utama, melaporkan ceritera dari sudut pandang “aku” atau “I” dan menjadi fokus atau pusat ceritera dan “aku” tokoh tambahan “First-person observant” yaitu pencerita yang tidak ikut berperan dalam ceritera, hadir sebagai tokoh tambahan yang aktif sebagai pendengar atau penonton dan hanya untuk melaporkan ceritera kepada pembaca dari sudut pandang “saya” atau “I”.

*(In my translation, First-person point of view "I" consists of: "I" as a main character or "First-person participant" is the narrator who had a role as the main character, reported the story from the perspective of "I" and become the focus or center of the story. Second, "I" as an additional character "First-person Observant" is the narrator who did not participate in the story, is present as an additional active character as listeners or viewers and only reported the story to the reader from the point of view of "I").<sup>3</sup> In this term paper, I will use the First-person participant or as a main character technique.*

c. Setting

Setting is information about time, space, and atmosphere of the story in a literary work.

<sup>2</sup> <http://education-portal.com/academy/lesson/methods-of-characterization-in-literature.html>

<sup>3</sup> Albertine Minderop. Metode Karakterisasi Telaah Fiksi, page 105

*“Setting, a term that, in its broadest sense, encompasses, both the physical locale that frames the action and the time of day or year, the climactic conditions, and the historical period during which the action takes place.”<sup>4</sup>*

According to Pickering and Hoepfer, background elements consist of background events, background antagonistic toward conflict, setting the appropriate atmosphere, sharpen character background character, and background of the build theme.

*Setting in fiction is called on to perform a number of desired functions. Setting may serve (1) to provide background for the action; (2) as an antagonist; (3) as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere; (4) as a means of revealing character; and (5) as a means of reinforcing theme.*

Explanation of each element of the background is as follows:

1. Setting as Background for Action

Setting as background for action is the setting that explains the places where the events of literature work occur.

2. Setting as Antagonist

Setting in the form of nature can function as a kind of causal agent or antagonist, helping to establish plot conflict and determine the outcome of events.

3. Setting as A Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere

Setting as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere is the setting that describes the state or the atmosphere in literature work that can arouse the state of readers.

4. Setting as A Means of Revealing Character

Setting as a mean of revealing character is the way in which a character perceives the setting, and the way he or she reacts to it, will

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<sup>4</sup> Pickering, James H., Jeffrey D. Hoepfer. 1981. Concise Companion to Literature. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., page 37.



tell the reader more about the character and his state of mind than it will about the physical setting itself.

#### 5. Setting as A Means of Reinforcing Theme

Setting as a means of reinforce theme is used to be a means of reinforcing and clarifying the theme of a novel or short story. It is the setting that explains the idea of an author in literature work that is expected to send to the readers.<sup>5</sup>

#### d. Plot

Plot is a narrative of events arranged in their time sequence. A plot is also a narrative of events, the emphasis fallin on casuality.<sup>6</sup>The plot has five distinct sections as follows:

##### 1. Exposition

The exposition is the beginning section in which the author provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establishes the situation, and dates the action.

##### 2. Rising Action.

This section breaks the existing equilibrium and introduces the characters and the underlying or inciting conflict. The conflict is then developed gradually and intensified.

##### 3. Climax.

The crisis is the moment at which the plot reaches its point of greatest emotional intensity; it is the turning point of the plot, directly precipitating its resolution.

##### 4. Falling Action.

Once the crisis, or turning point, has been reached, the tension subsides and the plot moves toward its appointed conclusion.

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<sup>5</sup> *ibid*, p 14

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, .p 13.

## 5. Resolution.

The final section of the plot is its resolution; it records the outcome of the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium or stability.<sup>7</sup>

### e. Theme

Theme is one of those critical terms that mean very different things to different people. To some, who think of literature mainly as vehicle for teaching, preaching, propagating a favorite idea, or encouraging some form of correct conduct, theme may mean the moral or lesson that can be extrapolated from the work.<sup>8</sup>

## 2. Extrinsic Approach

### a. The Definition of Sociology

A general definition of sociology is the systematic study of human society, culture, and relationships on a group level.

One way to think about sociology is to contrast it with different, but similar fields. For example, social psychology asks many of the same questions as sociology but uses different research methodology and studies people on an individual level instead of the group level. While sociology studies group patterns, such as why one culture believes in men having multiple wives while another culture does not, social psychology would study how the individual people within a marriage feel about their partner. So basically sociology looks at the 'big picture' on the group level, while social psychology studies the attitudes or feelings of each individual person. Sociology studies different ideas for what might create an ideal society. Some people believe that society should focus on making sure everyone is treated equally, including from an economic perspective. However, other people believe that an ideal society includes different

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<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 17.

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 61.

social classes, because wanting to be rich motivates people to invent things and work harder.<sup>9</sup>

b. The Theory of Conflict

1) Conflict by Lewis Coser

According to Coser, no group can be entirely harmonious, for then it would lack process and structure. Group formation is a result of both association and dissociation, so that both conflict and cooperation serve a social function. Some certain degree of conflict is an essential element in group formation. Coser describes some positive functions served by the expression of hostility in conflict.<sup>10</sup>

2) Family Conflict by Edge and Groves

Conflicts with family can have both negative and positive results. Negative conflicts can result in injury, marital distress, divorce, confused children, depression in the family, loss of property and or money. There are some stages of ongoing conflict. These are the following stages of conflict:

- Prior Condition Stage
- Frustration Awareness Stage
- Active Conflict Stage
- Solution or Non-Solution Stage
- Follow up Stage
- Resolved Stage<sup>11</sup>

a) Prior Condition Stage

The Prior Conditions Stage states that conflict does not occur without pre-existing reason or without a connection between the present conflict to the past person experiences. This is the first process to take place and lays the groundwork for the conflict.

b) Frustration Awareness Stage

<sup>9</sup> <http://education-portal.com/academy/lesson/what-is-sociology-definition-themes-careers-in-sociology.html#lesson>

<sup>10</sup> Lewis Coser, *The Functions of Social Conflict*. New York: The Free Press, 1956. page 224

<sup>11</sup> <http://matthewreilly.efoliomn.com/familyconflict>

The Frustration Awareness Stage involves a person becoming frustrated over another person due to not being able to satisfy a need or concern. Conflict may end at this stage if the person believes that the negative outcome outweighs the possible advantages.

c) Active Conflict Stage

The Active Conflict Stage the conflict becomes a series of verbal and nonverbal messages. Typically the conflict escalates from initial statements to bargaining or an ultimatum.

d) Solution or Non-solution Stage

The Solution or Non-solution Stage, the solution can be either positive or negative. It can have constructive satisfactory results or can be destructive and disappointing. The conflict may be resolved using either conflict management or conflict resolution. Using conflict management the immediate conflict is resolved, but there may be underlying issues that can stem to create future conflicts.

e) Follow up Stage

The Follow up Stage also known as the aftermath, includes the reactions that follow the conflict. This can affect future interactions. Hurt feelings and grudges can lead to the beginning stage of another conflict.

f) Resolved Stage

The resolved stage is when a conflict no longer affects the social system or it is balance. This is the final stage in the conflict process.

### **G. Method of Research**

Based on the theoretical framework, I use a qualitative research method, types of literature research. The research tendency is interpretative or analyzing by method of data collection from literary texts.

### **H. Benefits of Research**

Based on the methods of research, this study is expected to be useful for people who interested in deepening knowledge of My Sister's Keeper Novel by Jodi Picoult. This research may be beneficial because it is analyzed through a new

perspective by applying concept: conflict as a trigger to a reconciliation in Fitzgerald's family which use the theory of conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge & Groves, so it can show something new for further research.

#### **A. Systematic Organization of the Research**

Based on the above research benefits, a systematic presentation of the study is structured as follows:

##### **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION.**

It consists of: background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, methods of the research, benefits of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

##### **CHAPTER II: ANALYSIS OF MY SISTER'S KEEPER NOVEL APPROACH THROUGH INTRINSIC.**

It consists of: point of view method (including technique First-person as a main character), characterization analysis and plot and setting from the point of view method.

##### **CHAPTER III: CONFLICT AS A WAY OUT IN THE NOVEL *MY SISTER'S KEEPER*.**

It consists of: a glimpse of the sociology concept, a reflection of the concepts: Conflict as way out with the theory of conflict by Lewis A Coser and Edge and Groves. The concepts above should appear in several sub-chapters.

##### **CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION.**

It consists of: the conclusion that indicate the theme of the novel is Conflicts as a trigger to a reconciliation in Fitzgerald's family, explains observation about main study that contains in chapters along with the implication of study toward other variables.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Scheme of the Research

Abstract