

**INTERPRETING THE *HOLOCAUST* IN BERNHARD
SCHLINK'S *THE READER***

THESIS

This is proposed to meet one of the Bachelor Degree (S-1) requirements in
Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences
The University of Trunojoyo Madura

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THE STATEMENT OF THE THESIS AUTHORSHIP

Hereby, I Ayu Widya Wulandari Declare that this thesis entitles Interpreting the *Holocaust* in Bernhard Schlink's *The Reader* is truly my original work and has never been proposed to meet one of the bachelor degree (S-1) requirements from The University of Trunojoyo Madura and or other Universities.

All the information gathered in this scientific work that are taken from other writers, either published or not has been highly appreciated by citing professionally and I am fully in charge with the whole content of this work.

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MOTTO

By referring to my mission **“No effort, No result”**. I believe that all we did would have a value as equal with our effort that has been done.

@WulanAyu

“Once you missed, forever you lose”

@WulanAyu

~Dream, Believe and make it happen~

@AgnezMo

~We all Lost Stars, trying to light up the dark~

@AdamLevin

DEDICATIONS

This work is dedicated to:

My Nation

As my contribution to education circumstances

My beloved parents

Satam and Musripah

Thanks for all the things that has been given to me

**No single earthly good can compare with their effort to give me
the best in my life**

My pride brother

Lukman Anisa Ali M.

For his support up to now

My special one ...

Ray Bangun Setiawan

For his support to face the world

Lippo Bank

**For the scholarship that have been given to me from start to
end.**

There is no end to say thanks for them.

THESIS PUBLICATION AGREEMENT STATEMENT FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES

As a part academicians in the University of Trunojoyo Madura, I who sign below;

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For the sake of science and knowledge development, grant the University of Trunojoyo Madura a full thesis publication right entitled:

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The statement is made to be used properly.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

While I was writing this thesis, I often dreamt of this moment. The part when the manuscript would be written and the final stress would be gone. Finally, this moment has come. The result of this work will be judged by the examiners. Then, I would look back in this period of my life with pleasure, nostalgia and gratitude.

I cannot say that the process of this thesis writing is enjoyable. There are so many challenges and gravels that sprags my step. There are pains, hurts, losts, smiles, happiness and new knowledge and experiences. I often fall but it cannot stop me. Otherwise, it gives me power and makes me stronger and more conscious to working this thesis. This power not only comes from me, myself but also from God and other people that have given me supports. Thus, now I would like to say a deep thankful to them, those are;

1. Allah, my God the one
2. My parents, Satam and Musripah.
3. My Sisters, brothers and all of my family.
4. My Advisor, Rif'ah Inayati S.S., MA.
5. All of my lectures in English Study Program and Trunojoyo University Madura.
6. My beloved boyfriend.
7. All of my friends everywhere.

I glad to complete this thesis by remembering wonderful people whom have contribute to it in various ways. I loves you All.

Abstract

Wulandari, W. Ayu. 110511100058. *Interpreting The Holocaust in Bernhard Schlink's The Reader*. Thesis. English Study Program of the Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences, Trunojoyo University Madura. Advisor: Rif'ah Inayati, S.S., MA.

This study discusses the novel of Bernhard Schlink's *The Reader*. *The Reader* tells about an illiterate woman who becomes the guard of the Nazi's concentration camp and she is accused as the defendant for the holocaust incident. This study concerns to analyze the historicity between the holocaust in the novel and the historical record and the motives of the author in writing the novel.

This study uses New Historicism theory. Since this study needs the historical record as the supporting data to the analysis of the study, thus the theory that is used in this study is New Historicism theory. This theory is used because this theory allows the historical record to be parallel with the literary work. Moreover, this study uses qualitative research design because this study fulfills the characteristic of qualitative research.

After analyzing the research problems of this study, this study finds that the historicity of *The Reader* can be seen through the Death March setting of time, Death March setting of place and Death March victim between *The Reader* and the historical record. The analysis of the historicity shows that Bernhard Schlink writes the story of the holocaust in his own way as the interpretation from the history. This study also finds the motive of Schlink in writing *The Reader*. It can be seen through the depiction of the characters portrayal and the portrayal of the government role in handling the holocaust case. The portrayal of the characters show that the motive of Schlink in writes *The Reader* is to show his guilt feeling as the second generation of Nazi, to show his responsibility as a German, to show that being a German is huge burden and to ask the sympathy from the readers for the perpetrator of the holocaust. After that, the portrayal of the government role in handling holocaust case is to criticize the failure of the government in handling holocaust case.

Key Words: New Historicism, holocaust, interpretation, motive.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Cover	i
Title Page (outer cover)	ii
Title Page (inner cover)	iii
Approval Sheet I.....	iv
Approval Sheet II	v
The Statement of the Thesis Authorship.....	vi
Motto	vii
Dedication	viii
Thesis Publication Agreement Statement for Academic Purposes.....	ix
Acknowledgement	x
Abstract.....	xi
Table of Content.....	xii
CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of Study	1
1.2 Statement of Research Question.....	6
1.3 Objectives of Study	6
1.4 Significance of Study.....	6
1.5 Scope and Limitation.....	7
CHAPTER II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	8
2.1 New Historicism Theory	8
2.1.1. The Concept of the Historicity in New Historicism	10
2.1.2. The Concept of Motive in New Historicism	10
2.2 The History of the Holocaust.....	11
2.2.1 The History of the Death March	14
2.2.2 The Social condition of Germany during and after the Holocaust	15
2.2.3 The Political condition of Germany after the Holocaust....	16
2.3 Previous Studies	17
CHAPTER III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	19
3.1 Research Design	19
3.2 Data and Source of Data.....	19
3.3 Research Instrument	20
3.4 Technique of Collecting Data.....	20
3.5 Technique of Analyzing Data.....	21

CHAPTER IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION.....	23
4.1 The Historicity of the Holocaust from the Historical Record to <i>The Reader</i>	23
4.1.1 The Death March Setting of Time	29
4.1.2 The Death March Setting of Place.....	31
4.1.3 The Death March Victims	32
4.2 Schlink’s Motives or Intended Agenda in <i>The Reader</i>	36
4.2.1 The Depiction of Character Portrayal	37
4.2.1.1 Michael Berg	37
4.2.2.2 Hanna Schmith.....	44
4.2.2 The Portrayal of Government role in Handling the Holocaust Case	48
CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION	54
5.1 Conclusion.....	54
5.2 Suggestion	55
Refferences.....	56
Appendix.....	59