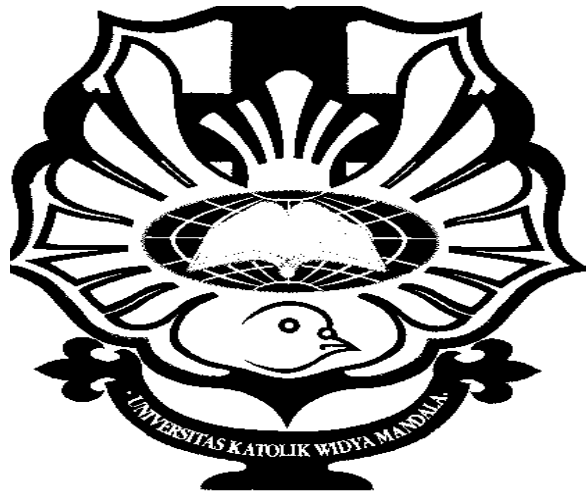


**PERSONAL PROBLEMS LEADING TO SUICIDE
IN MARSHA NORMAN'S *'NIGHT, MOTHER***

A THESIS

As A Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for The Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching Faculty



By

PRETTY CHRISTINA EFFENDY

1213002038

**UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
NOVEMBER, 2006**

APPROVAL SHEET

(I)

This thesis entitled PERSONAL PROBLEMS LEADING TO SUICIDE IN MARSHA NORMAN'S *'NIGHT, MOTHER* prepared and submitted by PRETTY CHRISTINA EFFENDY has been approved and accepted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:



Drs. Antonius Gurito

Advisor I



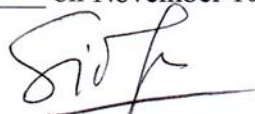
Yohanes Nugroho Widiyanto, M. Ed.

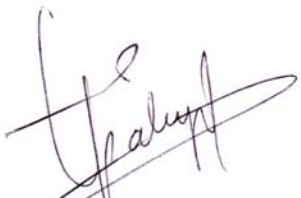
Advisor II

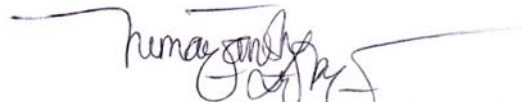
APPROVAL SHEET


(II)

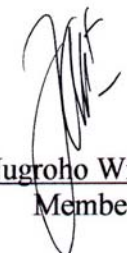
This thesis has been examined by the committee on an Oral Examination
with the grade of _____ on November 10th, 2006


Dra. Susana Teopilus, M. Pd.
Chairperson




M. G. Retno Palupi, M. Pd.
Member


Drs. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M. Hum.
Member


Drs. Antonius Gurito
Member


Yohanes Nugroho Widiyanto, M. Ed.
Member

Approved by



Dra. Agnes Santi Widiati, M. Pd.
Dean of the Teacher Training Faculty



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M. Pd.
Head of English Department

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to give my gratitude to the Lord, Jesus Christ who has inspired, blessed and made everything possible for me to finish my thesis.

I also would like to express my greatest and deepest thanks to the following people who have helped me in doing her thesis.

1. Drs. Antonius Gurito, my first advisor, who has helped, guided and given me valuable suggestion for the improvement of the study under report.
2. Yohanes Nugroho Widiyanto, M. Ed., my second advisor, who has helped, guided and given me valuable suggestion for the improvement of the study under report.
3. All my beloved lecturers, for their assistance in guiding me during my study in Widya Mandala Catholic University.
4. The librarian staffs in Widya Mandala library, who have helped me to find the source and the data that I needed.
5. My family in Jember (my father, my mother, my aunts, my younger brother and my cousins), who have given a lot of support, financially and mentally during my study and encouraged me to go on writing this thesis with their prayer at my time of despair.
6. My friend, Vincentia, who has been willing to lend me her computer anytime I need it.

7. My boarding house friends; Fejing, Eka, Veve, Meli, Tina, Siska, Nelsi, Ine, Merlin and Honey who have helped me with their prayer, support and advice.

The writer

ABSTRACT

Effendy, Pretty Christina. 2006. *Personal Problems Leading to Suicide in Marsha Norman's 'Night, Mother'*, S1 thesis, The English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabaya.

Key Words: drama, problems, suicide

Literature can be considered as a reflection of real life since it depicts many kinds of themes that occur in our society such as love, sacrifice, hate, desire, hope, survival, suffering and death. One of themes related to death is suicide.

The subject of this research, *'Night, Mother'*, a modern play written by Marsha Norman, depicts complex problems faced by Jessie Cates who ends her life by committing suicide. This research aims at answering the research question: What kinds of personal problems did Jessie Cates face before her suicide?

The writer uses the content analysis technique in her study. There are four steps in content analysis technique according to Marshall and Rossman (1989:98). The first step is choosing the object of the study. The second step is presenting the data and some theories from expert related to the study. The third step is collecting and identifying the data. The data are collected from the action and dialogues between the main characters in the play. The last step is deciding the analytical procedure to be used in analyzing the play.

Having analyzed the play, the writer finds out that there are many personal problems in Jessie's life which bring her into an idea of committing suicide. First of all, Jessie knows that she has a seizure that can not be cured forever and it makes her feel unworthy. She also feels disappointed about her mother, Thelma, who treats her like a servant and has lied about the important things in Jessie's life. She also realizes that she can not depend to her ex-husband, Cecil, or her son, Ricky, anymore since they leave her alone in Thelma's house. Her brother, Dawson and sister in law, Loretta, do not help her at all in facing all of her problems. Agnes, Thelma's closest friend even tries to avoid her since she knows about the seizure that Jessie's has. Those complicated and unfinished problems have made Jessie become depressed and decide to kill herself to end all of her sufferings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (I)	i
APPROVAL SHEET (II)	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
ABSTRACT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	4
1.3 Objective of the Study	5
1.4 Significant of the Study	5
1.5 Definition of A Key Terms	5
1.6 Scope and Limitation	6
1.7 Organization of the Thesis	7
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE	
2.1 Drama	8
2.2 Elements of the Drama	
2.2.1 Character	10
2.2.2 Plot	12
2.2.3 Setting	14
2.2.4 Human Values	14
2.3 Abnormal Psychology of Suicide	16
2.4 Related Study	17

CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design	19
3.2 Data and the Source of Data	21
3.3 Research Instrument	21
3.4 Data Collection Procedure	21
3.5 Data Analysis Procedure	22

CHAPTER IV: THE ANALYSIS

4.1 The Characteristics of Jessie Cates	23
4.2 Psychological Problems: Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward Herself	25
4.3 Social Problems	
4.3.1 Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward Her Mother	32
4.3.2 Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward Her Ex-husband	37
4.3.3 Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward Her Son	40
4.3.4 Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward Her Brother and Sister in Law	42
4.3.5 Jessie Cates' Personal Problems toward other People	44
4.4 The Findings	45

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion	46
5.2 Suggestion	48

BIBLIOGRAPHY	49
--------------	----

SUMMARY OF THE PLAY	51
---------------------	----