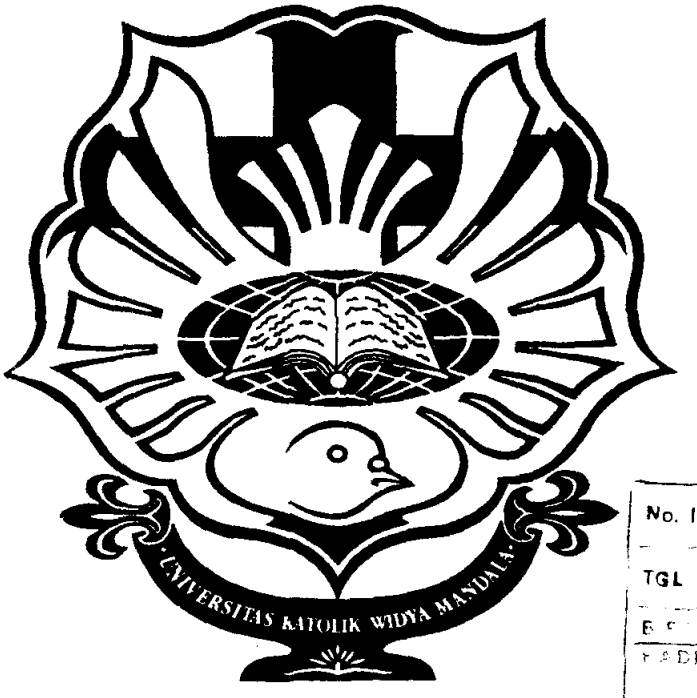
AN ANALYSIS ON LANGUAGE STYLE IN ERICH SEGAL'S "LOVE STORY"

A THESIS

As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching Faculty



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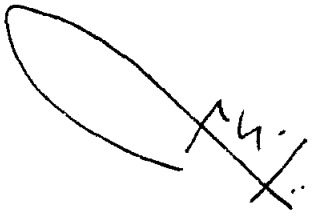

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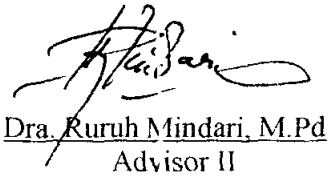

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ABSTRACT

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Key Words: analysis, language, style, language style

The study under report is discussing the language style in Erich Segal's *Love Story*. This novel is about a boy and a girl who fall in love with each other but come from different social classes. After the writer read this novel, the writer was interested in analyzing this novel, especially the language style because the writer found that different social classes had their own language styles.

The writer formulated the following questions. (1) What language styles are used by different social classes of the same modern society in Erich Segal's *Love Story*? (2) Why do the two different social classes, higher class and lower class, talk in different language styles?

To answer those questions, the writer relied on language style theory which is also supported by some other theories of Sociolinguistics. The theory of language style is used to differentiate some utterances of the characters in this novel, while the theory of Sociolinguistics is used to differentiate the social levels in society since it studies the relationship between language and society.

In view that the object of this study is Erich Segal's *Love Story*, the first step of data collecting procedures was one straight through reading. To get a detailed understanding on the character's language style, the writer, then, reread the novel. The writer, at last, quoted some of the utterances which showed language style.

Having collected the data, the writer started the analysis in accordance with the above-mentioned theoretical frameworks. The analysis results show that different social classes in the same modern society have different language styles. The high social class usually talks in standard language and in formal style while the low class talks in non-standard language and in casual style. Their social classes influence their language style. The high class talks in standard and in formal style because as high class people, they have good education which teach them how to behave and to talk politely. Their language shows their status. In vice versa, the low class people talk in non-standard language and in informal or casual style because most of them are uneducated people who do not know how to talk in appropriate way. In addition, talking in non-standard and informal style has already become their habit in everyday life. There is also one important thing that young generations whether they come from high or low class usually use non-standard form and casual style in talking to other people of the same age. High class generations do not care about their formality in talking. Therefore, their language style will be the same.