

**MILES RYAN'S CHANGING ATTITUDE TOWARD  
THE DEATH OF HIS WIFE IN  
*A BEND IN THE ROAD* BY NICHOLAS SPARKS**

**A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to Obtain  
the Sarjana Degree in the English Letters Study Program**



**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAMME  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
SEMARANG  
2011**

**A THESIS APPROVAL**

**MILES RYAN'S CHANGING ATTITUDE TOWARD THE  
DEATH OF HIS WIFE IN  
*A BEND IN THE ROAD* BY NICHOLAS SPARKS**



By

**Yuristiawati**

**07.80.0030**

Approved by,

**G.M Adhyanggono, SS., M.A**

**August 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Major Sponsor**

**Dra. Ekawati. M. Dukut, M.Hum**

**August 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Co-Sponsor**

**A THESIS APPROVAL**

**MILES RYAN'S CHANGING ATTITUDE TOWARD THE  
DEATH OF HIS WIFE IN  
*A BEND IN THE ROAD* BY NICHOLAS SPARKS**

By

**Yuristiawati**

**07.80.0030**

Approved by,



**G.M Adhyanggono, SS., M.A**

**August 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Major Sponsor**



**Dra. Ekawati. M. Dukut, M.Hum**

**August 18<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Co-Sponsor**

A thesis defended in front of the Board of Examiners on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and declared acceptable

**BOARD OF EXAMINERS**

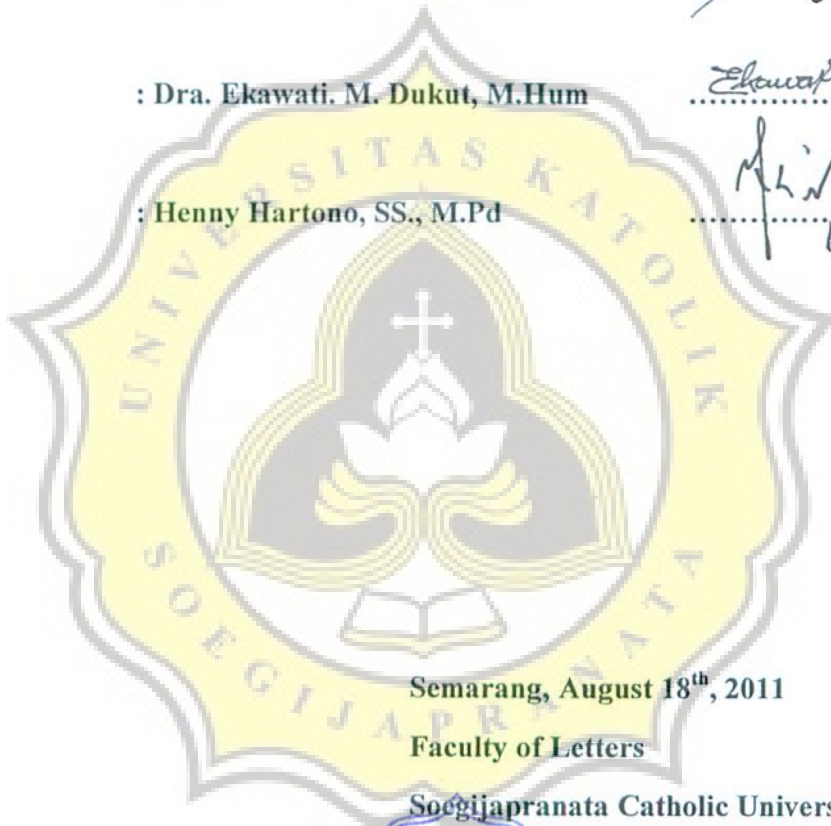
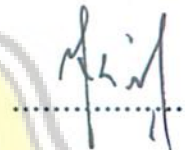
Chairperson : G.M Adhyanggono, SS., M.A



Secretary : Dra. Ekawati. M. Dukut, M.Hum



Member : Henny Hartono, SS., M.Pd



Semarang, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Faculty of Letters

Soegijapranata Catholic University



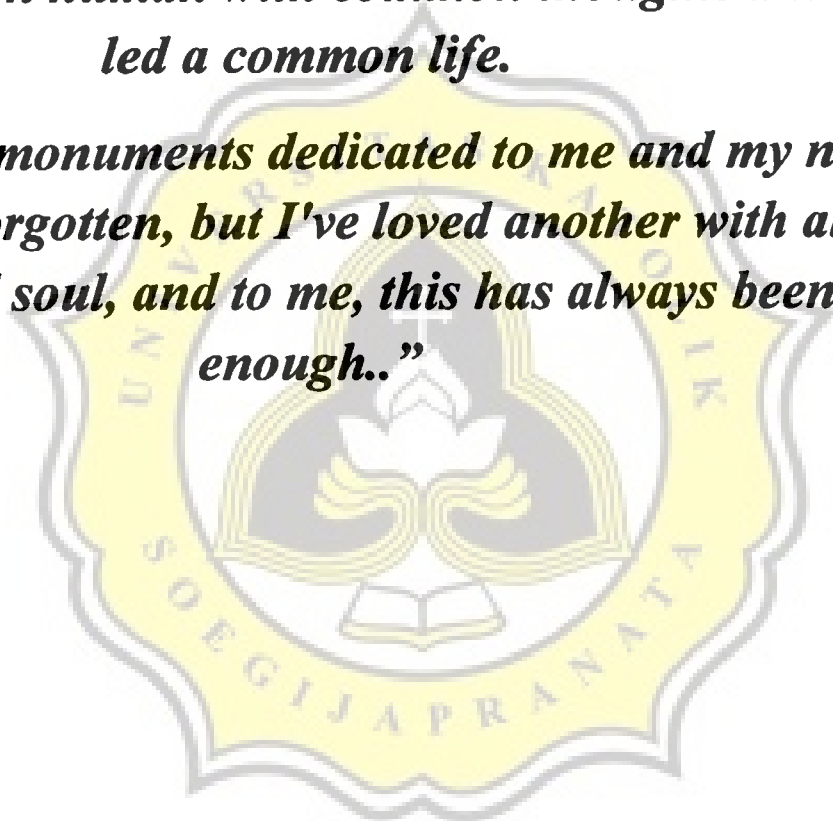
Henny Hartono, SS., M.Pd

058.1.1998.221

***“I am nothing special, of this I am sure.***

***am a common human with common thoughts and I've  
led a common life.***

***here are no monuments dedicated to me and my name  
ll soon be forgotten, but I've loved another with all my  
heart and soul, and to me, this has always been  
enough..”***



***Nicholas Sparks***

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

In this opportunity, I would give thanks to everyone who willingly helps, gives courage, supports and guides me in the process of finishing this thesis.

First of all I want to give my thanks to my Allah SWT. Thank you for Your kindness in creating me to see this beautiful universe and giving me so many chances to stay alive although I always disappoint You. Without Your help I am nothing in this world. Above all, I am deeply thankful for your never ending blessing, so that I can finish my thesis.

Also I would like to dedicate my gratitude to my lecturers, GM. Adhyanggono, SS. MA as my major sponsor and Dra. Ekawati M. Dukut, M.Hum as my co-sponsor, who patiently gave their time to check my thesis, to cross out the wrong content and gave their courage and guidance so that I can finish my thesis though they have expected me to finish so much earlier. I am going to miss the time when I spend my minutes with them. And also to all lecturers in the Faculty of Letters, thank you so much for teaching me within these wonderful four years.

Most importantly, I would like to dedicate my thesis to my mama Yetty Syahdinar and ayah Rachmawan. You are the best parent and will be the very best for me forever. Thank you for your never ending love, support, prayers and attention in my life, especially in the process of finishing this thesis. I love you. Thank you for my little sister Ristianti Putri, the one who always makes me think that life is much easier when we are not falling too deep into it. A little sister who

I am proud of and I hope I can be the best sister she will ever know. Sorry for being so rude to you, honestly that's the way I express my love for you. Someday you will know how much I love you. Papi, Eyang, Kakung Irian and Eyang Irian thank you for nurturing my parents with your love until they have a 22 years old daughter like me. I miss you all, my grandparents.

And to Aditya Brian Prathama, thank you for your love and care for me. Thank you for always supporting me, smiling at me, letting me to write your name across my thesis and always by my side whenever I wanted you. Thank you for bringing back my smile and giving a new family in my life. I love you Bi. Tante, Om, Dek Nissa and Dek Noval many thanks to you all.

Last but not least, thank you to my sisters Kak Cindy and Mbak Agnes for your support, thank you for this four years friendship. I hope our friendship will last forever. Deep thanks to Mbak Tasya who gave so many advices about this thesis. My friends in 2007, especially Adjuk, Rotu and Christ thank you for sharing your stories with me. I'm going to miss you all. My friends in UNIKA Soegijapranata, thank you for spending your time to know me. I am sorry that I can not mention all of you here one by one.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGES OF TITLE .....	i
PAGES OF APPROVAL.....	ii
BOARD OF EXAMINERS .....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vi
ABSTRACT .....	ix
ABSTRAK .....	x
CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Field of the study .....	5
1.3 Scope of the study.....	5
1.4 Problem Formulation .....	6
1.5 Objectives of the Study .....	6
1.6 Significance of the Study .....	6
1.7 Definition of Terms .....	7
CHAPTER II. LITERATURE REVIEW.....	8
2.1. Sigmund Freud Concepts .....	8
2.1.1. Concept of Human Psyche-Iceberg .....	8
2.1.1.1. Id .....	10
2.1.1.2. Ego .....	11
2.1.1.3. Superego .....	11
2.1.1.4. Table.....	12
2.1.2. Concept of Infantile Sexuality.....	9
2.1.3. Concept of Psychic Process .....	9



2.1.4. Concept of Screen Memory .....	9
2.1.5. Concept of Dream Work .....	9
2.2 Abraham Maslow's Theory of Needs .....	13
2.2.1 Physiological need .....	13
2.2.2 Safety Needs .....	14
2.2.3 Belongness and Loves Needs .....	14
2.2.4 Esteem Needs .....	15
2.2.5 Self Actualization .....	15
<b>CHAPTER III. RESEARCH METHODOLGY .....</b>	<b>18</b>
3.1 Data Collection .....	18
3.1.1 Instruments .....	18
3.1.2 Procedures .....	19
3.1.3 Time Schedule .....	19
3.2 Data Analysis .....	20
<b>CHAPTER IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION .....</b>	<b>24</b>
4.1. Analyzing Miles Ryan's Changing attitude by Using Freudian Psychoanalytic in concept of human Psyche-Iceberg .....	24
4.1.1. Miles Ryan's Id .....	25
4.1.2. Miles Ryan's Ego .....	29
4.1.3. Miles Ryan's Superego .....	38
4.2. Analyzing Miles Ryan's Love Motivation by Using Abraham Maslow's the Theory of Needs .....	44
4.2.1. Analyzing Miles Ryan's Love Motivation .....	45

CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION .....	51
BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	53



## ABSTRACT

A novel entitled *A Bend in the Road* by Nicholas Sparks tells about a life of a deputy sheriff in North Carolina town, Miles Ryan, after the death of his wife, Missy, in a hit and run accident. In two years he tried to reveal who is the murderer of his belated wife. On his effort to reveal that case, he meets his son's teacher Sarah Andrews who finally become his lover. In the middle of their relationship, Brian who is Sarah's brother confesses to her that he is the murderer of Miles's wife. Miles gets angry about Brian's confession and ends his relationship with Sarah because he thinks that Sarah has planned to hide the truth about Brian from him. But finally, Miles decides to forgive Brian and starts his relationship again with Sarah.

This research aims to find out Miles Ryan's changing attitude in his effort to reveal the death of his wife that happened two years ago. Two theories will be used to analyze Miles Ryan's character.

First, the writer uses Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic approach about three elements of personality, id, ego and superego. Changing attitude nearly always becomes the process to reach the result of these three elements. So the writer hopes Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalytic theory will help to find the ground theory to be applied on the character of Miles Ryan. After Miles' id, ego and superego are clearly traced, it is easier to discover the motivation behind the changing attitude of Miles Ryan through the murderer of his wife using the Theory of Needs by Abraham Maslow.

The changing attitude first happens when Miles Ryan met Sarah Andrews who is his lover and suddenly forgets about his effort to reveal his wife's death. The second changing attitude happens when Miles knew that the death of his wife is caused by Brian who is his lover's brother and also the murderer of his belated wife, but instead of being angry he forgives Brian about the case that happened two years ago.

## ABSTRAK

Novel berjudul *A Bend in the Road* yang ditulis oleh Nicholas Sparks menceritakan tentang kehidupan seorang deputi sherif di kota Carolina utara, bernama Miles Ryan setelah kematian istrinya, Missy dalam kecelakaan tabrak lari. Selama dua tahun dia telah mencoba mengungkap pembunuh mending istrinya. Dalam usahanya untuk mengungkap kasus itu, dia bertemu dengan guru anak lelakinya bernama Sarah Andrews yang pada akhirnya menjadi kekasihnya. Di tengah hubungan mereka, Brian adik laki-laki Sarah mengaku padanya jika dia adalah pembunuh istri Miles. Miles menjadi marah tentang pengakuan Brian dan mengakhiri hubungannya dengan Sarah karena dia berfikir jika Sarah berkomplot untuk menyembunyikan kebenaran darinya dengan Brian. Tetapi pada akhirnya, Miles memutuskan untuk memaafkan Brian dan memulai kembali hubungannya dengan Sarah

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan perubahan sikap Miles Ryan dalam usahanya mengungkap kematian istrinya yang terjadi dua tahun lalu. Dua teori akan dipergunakan dalam menganalisis karakter dari Miles Ryan.

Pertama-tama, penulis menggunakan teori dari Sigmund Freud tentang teori psikoanalisis yang berisi tiga elemen dasar dari kepribadian, id, ego dan superego. Perubahan sikap seringkali menjadi proses untuk mencapai hasil dari tiga elemen tersebut. Maka, penulis berharap teori psikoanalisis dari Sigmund Freud dapat membantu dalam menemukan teori dasar yang dapat digunakan pada karakter Miles Ryan.

Selanjutnya, setelah id, ego dan superego dari Miles tampak jelas, ini akan mempermudah pencarian motivasi dibalik perubahan sikap dari Miles Ryan terhadap pembunuh istrinya menggunakan teori dasar kebutuhan milik Abraham Maslow.

Perubahan sikap pertama kali yang terjadi ketika Miles Ryan bertemu dengan kekasihnya Sarah Andrews dan tiba-tiba melupakan usahanya untuk mengungkap kematian istrinya. Perubahan sikap yang kedua terjadi ketika Miles telah mengetahui kematian istrinya disebabkan oleh Brian yang mana merupakan adik laki-laki kekasihnya dan juga pembunuh almarhum istrinya, kemudian ia memaafkan Brian mengenai segala persoalan yang telah terjadi dua tahun lalu.