

Loneliness in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*

A THESIS



By:

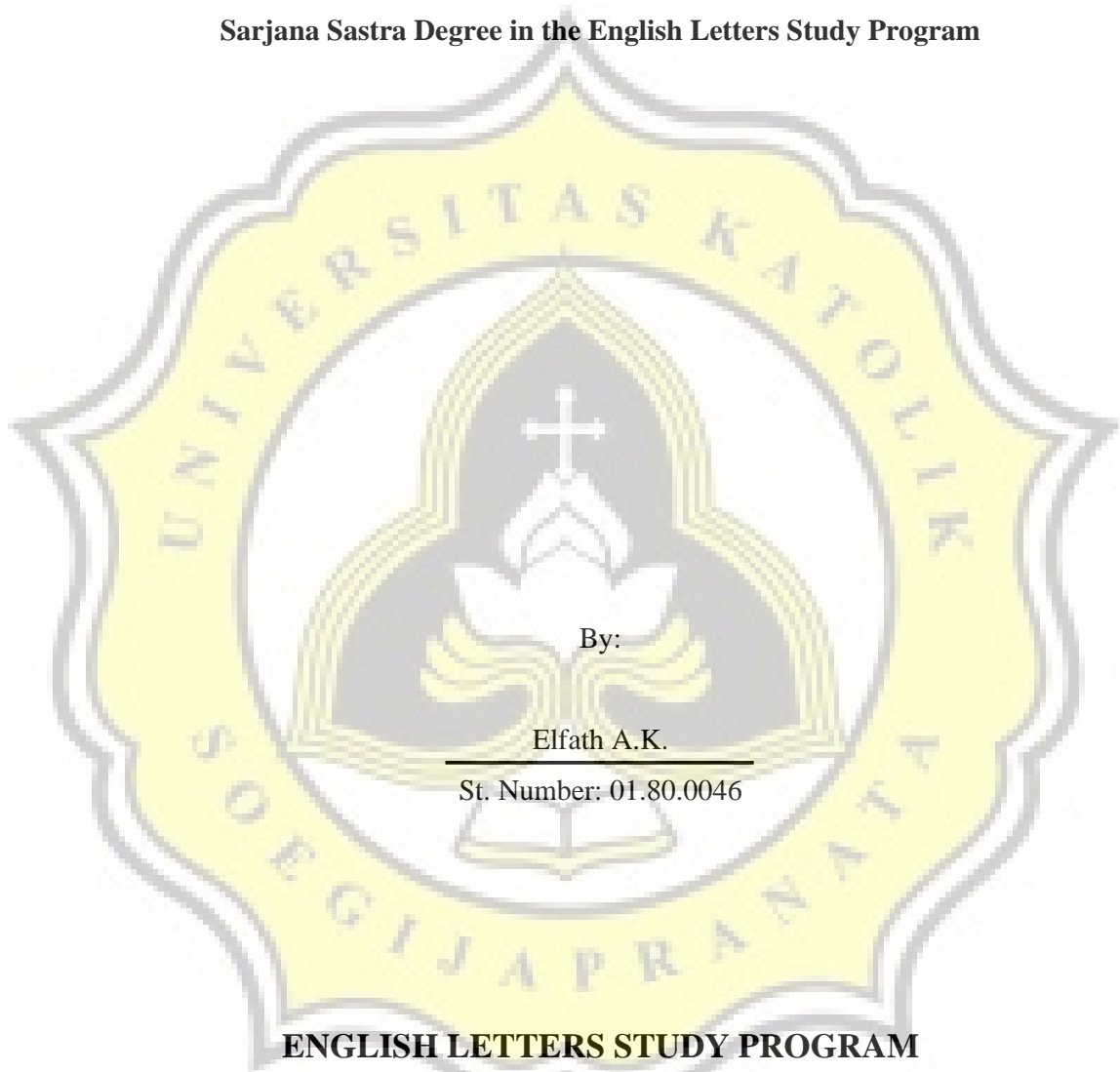
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**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LETTERS
SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG
2008**

Loneliness in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*

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



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A Thesis on

LONELINESS IN JOHN STEINBECK'S *OF MICE AND MEN*

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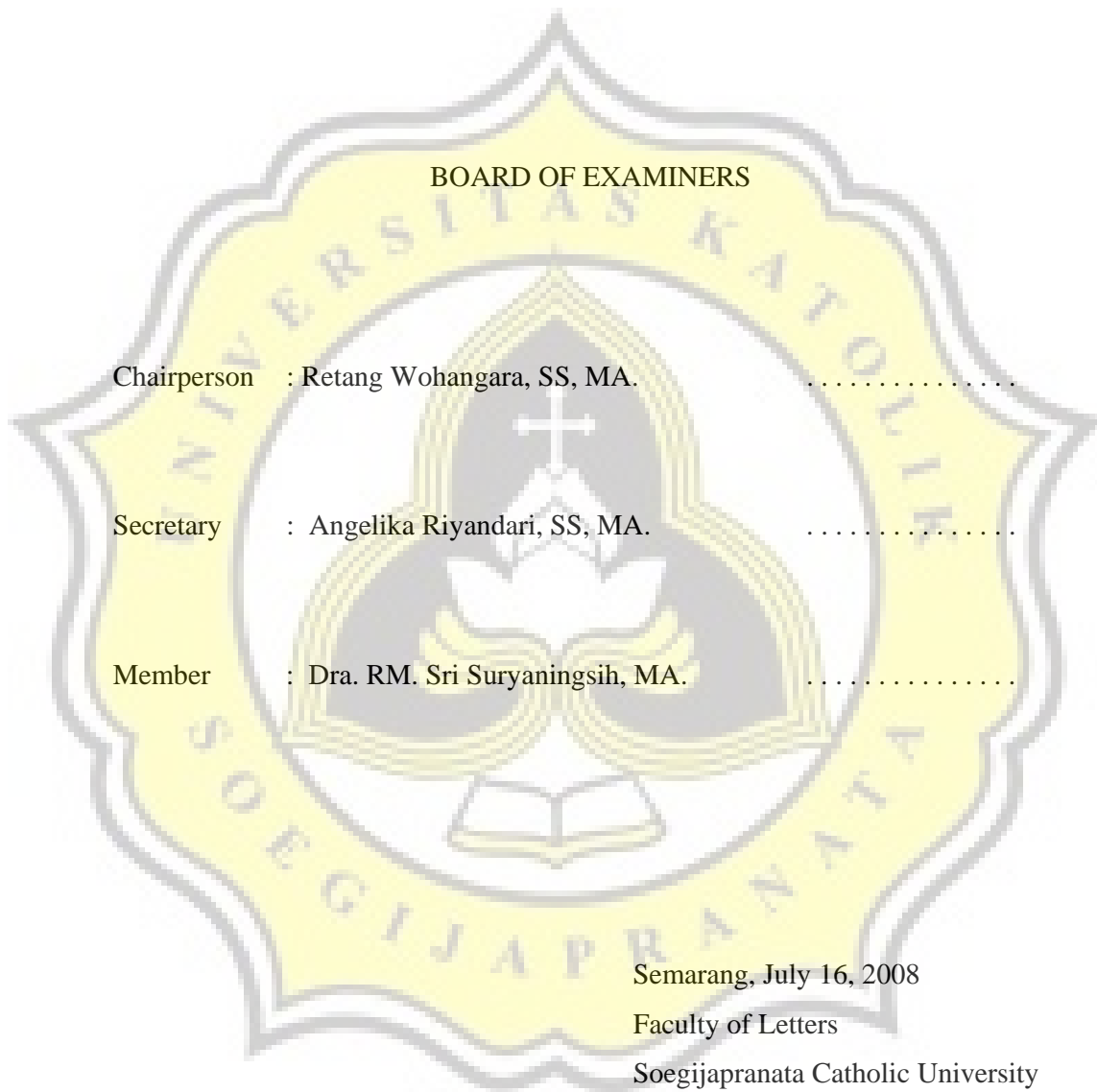
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The writer realizes that this thesis is not yet perfect. However, the writer hopes that the readers find it useful. Thank you very much.

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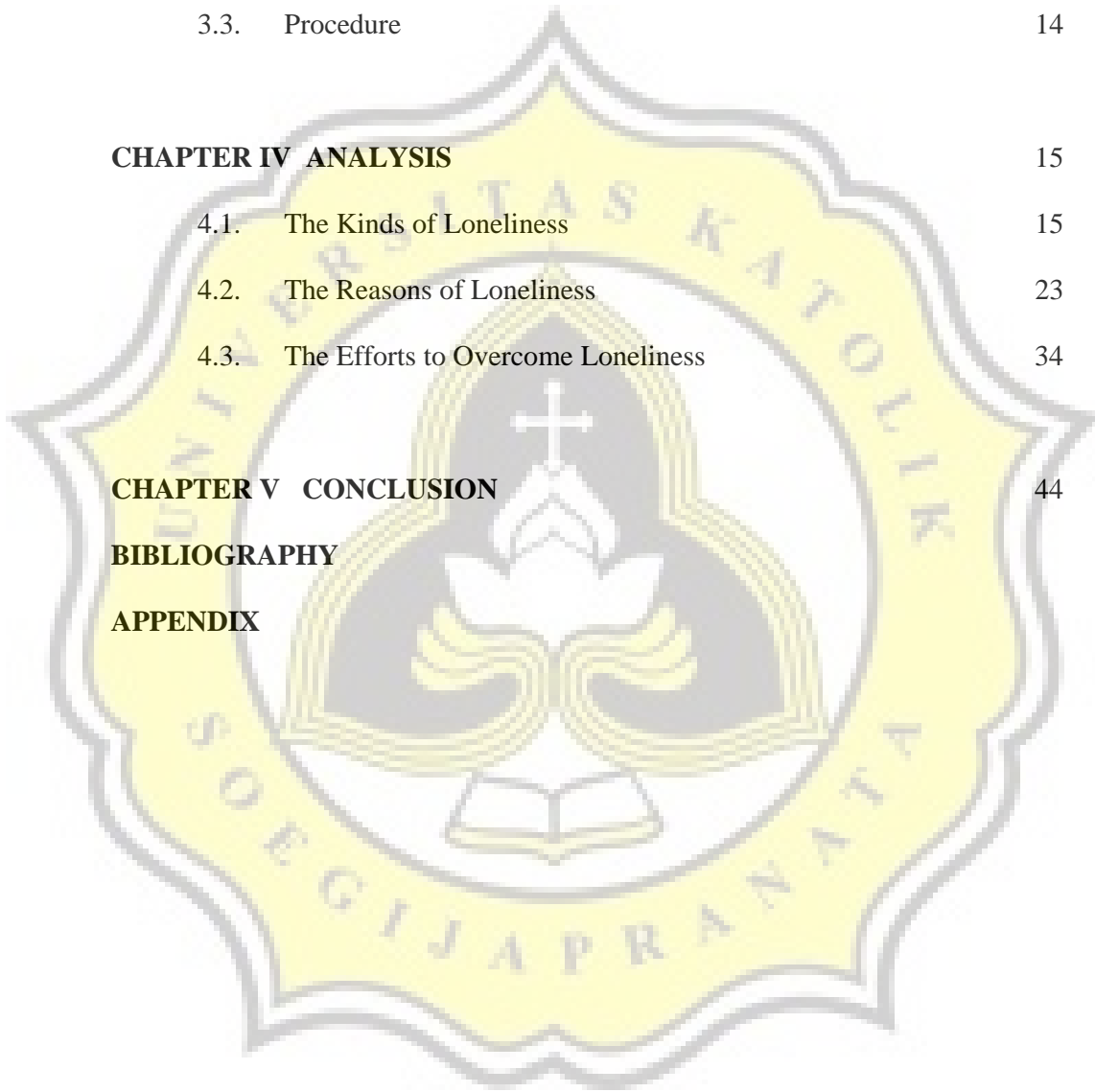
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ABSTRACT

John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* reveals the life of two friends, George and Lennie, who travel all around the country to work on ranches. As they work on a ranch in Salinas, they meet other workers. Apparently, living together in a certain place like ranch does not guarantee an individual from being lonely. The novel implies cues that George, Lennie, Candy, Crooks and Curley's wife are lonely characters in spite of the presence of other people around them. The study on loneliness in the novel has three objectives: to reveal the kinds of loneliness in the novel, to reveal the reasons of loneliness experienced by the characters in the novel and to find out the actions done by the characters to fight loneliness. In analysing the novel, a psychological criticism is applied due to the fact that loneliness is much related to the psychological conditions. The analysis finds that each character discussed has different kinds of loneliness: George Milton, Candy and Curley's wife suffer from neurological loneliness, Lennie Small suffers from psychological and cognitive loneliness, while Crooks suffers from social loneliness. The novel also reveals that George Milton suffers from loneliness because of missing someone, Lennie Small suffers from loneliness because he is unable to fit in as well as being abused and rejected by others, Candy suffers from loneliness because he is unable to fit in, Crooks suffers from loneliness because he is being abused and rejected by others as well as missing someone, while Curley's wife suffers from loneliness because she is being rejected by others. At last, this study finds that George Milton and Curley's wife try to defeat loneliness by desiring for someone, Lennie Small tries to fight loneliness by crying and desiring for someone, Candy tries to get over loneliness by being inactive and fantasizing, while Crooks tries to overcome loneliness by hiding feelings and being inactive.

ABSTRAK

Novel *Of Mice and Men* karya John Steinbeck mengungkapkan kehidupan tentang dua sahabat, George dan Lennie, yang berkelana keliling negeri untuk bekerja di peternakan. Ketika mereka bekerja di sebuah peternakan di Salinas, keduanya berjumpa dengan para pekerja lain. Tampaknya, tinggal bersama di suatu tempat tidak menjamin seseorang jauh dari rasa kesepian. Novel ini menyiratkan tanda-tanda bahwa George, Lennie, Candy, Crooks dan istri Curley adalah tokoh-tokoh yang kesepian meskipun dengan adanya kehadiran orang lain di sekitar mereka. Penelitian tentang kesepian yang terdapat di dalam novel ini memiliki tiga tujuan: untuk mengungkapkan jenis-jenis kesepian yang ada di dalam novel, untuk mengungkapkan alasan-alasan kesepian yang dialami oleh para tokoh di dalam novel, dan untuk mengetahui tindakan-tindakan yang dilakukan oleh para tokoh tersebut dalam memerangi kesepian. Dalam menganalisa novel ini, diterapkan pendekatan psikologis mengingat fakta bahwa rasa kesepian sangat terkait dengan kondisi psikologis. Analisa menemukan bahwa tiap tokoh yang dibahas memiliki jenis kesepian yang berlainan: George Milton, Candy dan istri Curley mengalami rasa kesepian neurologis, Lennie Small mengalami rasa kesepian psikologis dan kognitif, sedangkan Crooks mengalami rasa kesepian sosial. Novel ini juga mengungkapkan bahwa George Milton mengalami kesepian karena merindukan seseorang, Lennie Small mengalaminya karena tidak mampu menyesuaikan diri serta dikasari dan ditolak orang lain, Candy mengalaminya karena tidak mampu menyesuaikan diri, Crooks mengalaminya karena dikasari dan ditolak orang lain serta merindukan seseorang, sedangkan istri Curley mengalaminya karena ditolak orang lain. Pada akhirnya, penelitian ini menemukan bahwa George Milton dan istri Curley mencoba mengalahkan kesepian dengan cara menginginkan seseorang, Lennie Small mencoba memeranginya dengan cara menangis dan menginginkan seseorang, Candy mencoba menyudahinya dengan cara bersikap tidak aktif dan berfantasi, sedangkan Crooks mencoba mengatasinya dengan cara menyimpan perasaan dan bersikap tidak aktif.