ABSTRACT

Literary works reflect a series of happening of human life such as their problems, conflicts of life, struggles of life, attitudes and behaviors of human being. They are represented to give enjoyment and satisfaction. Besides, they can broaden the reader’s general knowledge. Novel is one of literary works that is taken by the researcher as the object of the study. The purposes of this study are to find out the answer of the questions: (1) what are Gerda’s psychological conflicts?, (2) what are the causes of Gerda’s psychological conflicts?, and (3) what are the effects of Gerda’s psychological conflicts on her husband?.

This thesis used descriptive qualitative research design because there was no treatment as in experimental research. This thesis just described or interpreted condition or situation. The approach used was objective approach because this study focused on the literary product without considering the author’s life, the background of the work, and the background of the society. The object of this study was “The Hollow” novel which was written by Agatha Christie. Moreover, the research data were derived from paragraphs, dialogues, and events in the story which had relation to Gerda’s psychological conflicts.

The result of this study shows that there were two reasons of Gerda’s psychological conflicts: Gerda’s broken heart and Gerda felt suppressed. Then, there was only one cause of her conflicts that is she saw her husband’s affair. The effects of her psychological conflicts on her husband were: (a) Gerda became a killer and, (b) Gerda was a liar.