GEORGE MILTON'S EXISTENCE IN JOHN STEINBECK'S OF MICE AND MEN

THESIS

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By:

Mohammad Iqbal

Reg. Number: A73214091

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SUNAN AMPEL
SURABAYA

2018

DECLARATION

Name: Mohammad Iqbal

NIM: A73214091

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Surabaya, May 1st 2018

ENAM BERTUPIAH

Mohammad Iqbal

A73214091

Approved to be examined Surabaya, May 1st 2018

Thesis advisor

SUFI IKRIMA SAADAH, M. HUM NIP. 201603318

Acknowledgement by

Dr. Mohammad Kurjum, M. Ag. NIP. 196909251994031002

HEAD OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SUNAN AMPEL
SURABAYA
2018

This thesis has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners of English Department Faculty of Arts dan Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

Surabaya, July 1st 2018

Dean,

gus Aditoni, M.Ag 196210021992031001

The Board of Examiner

Examiner 1

Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M. Hum NUP. 201603318

Examiner, II

Abu Fanani, M. Pd

NIP. 196906152007011051

Examiner III

NIP. 197002051999032002

Examiner IV

NIP. 19660507199703/1003



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA PERPUSTAKAAN

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300 E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

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NIM	: A73214091
Fakultas/Jurusan	: Adab dan Humaniora / Sastra Inggris
E-mail address	: not.iqbal@gmail.com
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ABSTRACT

Iqbal, Mohammad. 2018. "George Milton's Existence in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*". Thesis. English Department Faculty of Arts and Humanities, State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

The Advisor: Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M. Hum.

This thesis entitled *George Milton's Existence in John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men* that examines existentialism in a literary work. It uses existentialism theory by Jean-Paul Sartre who argues that everyone has freedom of choices. This research also uses new criticism theory to answer the statement of the problems. The researcher uses qualitative descriptive method to explain more detail in the analysis.

The statement of the problems in this study are: 1. How is George Milton characterized? 2. How does George Milton show his existence through his choices and responsibilities? 3. How does George Milton show his essence?

The results of the analysis show that George Milton has some characteristic in the story: a kind person, a brave person, and a dodgy person. Then, the next result shows that George Milton is aware with his existence through the freedom of choice and the responsibilities in the journey. George Milton chooses some decisions: he escapes from the previous ranch to save Lennie—a weak person who has mental disability and often makes troubles, he keeps staying on a new ranch, he plans to buy a new house, and he keeps Lennie staying on the ranch safely. George is also responsible for the choices, his responsibilities are: looking for a new job after he leaves from the previous ranch, keeping Lennie to be safe from the cruel Curley, planning to get another job, and showing Lennie a safe place to hide when he gets into trouble. Then, the last analysis shows that he is a humanist one for helping weak people in the ranch.

Key Terms: George Milton, Existence, John Steinbeck, Of Mice and Men

INTISARI

Iqbal, Mohammad. 2018. "George Milton's Existence in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*". Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Dosen Pembimbing: Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M. Hum.

Skripsi ini berjudul *George Milton's Existence in John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men* yang meneliti tentang eksistensialisme dalam karya sastra. George yang menjadi tokoh utama yang dianalisis melakukan pelarian dari tempat ia bekerja yaitu peternakan Wedd untuk menyelamatkan Lennie. Upaya itu dilakukan George karena Lennie melakukan tindakan yang membahayakan diri sehingga George merasa perlu bertanggung jawab membantunya. Kemudian, ketika mereka menemukan peternakan baru untuk bekerja, George juga melakukan banyak keputusan yang berat, antara lain: bertahan di peternakan baru dengan lingkungan tidak nyaman, berencana membeli rumah baru, serta mempertahankan Lennie untuk tetap di peternakan dengan aman. Semua itu menjadi alasan peneliti untuk menganalisis kesadaran kebebasan pilihan George ketika membuat keputusan. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Eksistensialisme oleh Jean-Paul Sartre yang berpendapat jika setiap orang memiliki kebebasan dalam memilih.

Penelitian ini juga menggunakan teori kritik baru untuk menjawab rumusan masalah. Peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk menjelaskan lebih detail dalam analisis. Masalah yang diteliti dalam penelitian ini adalah: bagaimana karakteristik George Milton, bagaimana George Milton menampilkan eksistensinya melalui pilihan dan tanggung jawab, dan bagaimana George Milton menampilkan esensi dirinya.

Hasil analisis pertama menunjukkan George Milton memiliki beberapa karakteristik dalam cerita, antara lain: George adalah orang yang baik, berani, dan cerdik. Hasil analisis kedua menunjukkan bahwa George Milton sadar atas eksistensinya yang ditunjukkan melalui kebebasan atas pilihan dan tanggung jawab selama perjalanan, George bertanggung jawab atas pilihan yang telah diambil sehingga dapat menyelamatkan Lennie dari pembunuhan oleh pekerja peternakan. Hasil analisis terakhir menunjukkan esensi diri George adalah seorang yang humanis karena telah membantu orang lemah di peternakan.

Kata Kunci: George Milton, Eksistensi, John Steinbeck, Of Mice and Men

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Humanism has wide significance, humanism is human interests or values that be a life centered or the most important in the world. Human are unique. They are located in high position because God has given them mind and feeling. As the position of human, they have responsibility with them self (Muzairi 50).

The position of existentialism occupies same position with humanism. Existentialism assumes that everyone be a subject not an object. Sartre distinguishes humans unlike "scissors" or other objects that have created the essence before. So that, Sartre describes human has no essence is externally fixed by some metaphysical principle like universal human nature or a divine creature like God. According to Sartre, human existence precedes his essence. Human as subject are free to choose them self and face every possibility and alternative ways in every situation (Muzairi 55).

Human's existence can appear at a role of storyline in literary work. It happens, because an existentialist writer creates a figure in a literary work that is aware of the freedom of a character in his story. As the meaning of literature, it is expression of human being that has shown in written text. The writer points out the idea sometimes represented world, truths and imaginations (Dermot et al. 7). According to a book entitled *Mengenal 25 Teori Sastra* by John Sehandi, the sharp sense of literary author makes him to be able to capture the valuable

essences of life contained there. Literary works can make readers more sensitive to life. Literary works are considered to be able to make the audience more familiar with humanity as the literary authors write in their works (15).

The idea of humanity cannot be found in all literary works, but it is only in good once. It has been described in book Petter Barry's *Beginning Theory: an Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*, good literature is literary work that can record events in an age and will become eternal through the ages after them, for good literature has timeless signification; this literature somehow transcends the boundaries and characteristics of the time that it wrote. Literature is not just for one epoch, good literature will live from time to time. The authors of literary work will be immortal also because they have a good work. There are some author that have good literary work, such as William Shakespeare (1564-1616) in England with *Romeo and Juliet (1597)*, Herman Melville (1819-1891) in America with *Moby Dick (1851)*, Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961) in America with *The Old Man and the Sea (1953)*, John Steinbeck (1902-1968) in America with *Of Mice and Men (1937)*, and Gabriel García Márquez (1927-2014) in Colombia with *Chronicle of a Death Foretold (1983)* (20).

The researcher only focuses on one literary work above to analyze in this thesis. Without belittling others literary works—using existentialism theory that proposed by Jean-Paul Sartre—the researcher chooses to analyze George Milton in *Of Mice and Men*. Because after the researcher reads the novel there was existence's sides in the novel. The existence's side is shown by George Milton as the main character in his journey.

The novel John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* has two main characters.

Steinbeck starts with two main characters that escapes from ranch.

"They had walked in single file down the path, and even in the open one stayed behind the other. . . The first man was small and quick, dark of face with restless eyes and sharp, strong features. Every part of him was defined: small, strong hands, slender arms, a thin and bony nose. Behind him walked his opposite, a huge man, shapeless of face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws. His arms did not swing at his sides, but hung loosely." (Steinbeck 4)

The quotation above explains the main character George Milton and Lennie that escapes from Weed. Because of the situation, George choose to flee from Weed with Lennie. George Milton is portrayed as an idealist man who has firmness and Lennie Small as the larger man that has a mild mental disability in the novel that published in 1937. Lennie's sweet innocence, the undying devotion he shows George, and his habit of petting soft things are his major defining traits from the opening pages to the final scene. Just as constant are George's blustery rants about how much easier life would be without the burden of caring for Lennie, and unconvincing speeches that always end by revealing his love for and desire to protect his friend. The researcher assumes that George has existence's sides here.

The George's existence in the novel is also to make the employee—Old ranch worker that lost his hand and his money—becoming a free man to get out from the oppression in the ranch. Old Candy deems the new house that George describes worthy of his hard-earned life. George makes Lennie believe that there will be a better life outside of the ranch.

The explanation above shows the existence's side of George Milton in his journey. The researcher analyzes all of George's decision in *Of Mice and Men* that shows his existence. As explained by Jean-Paul Sartre in book entitled *Filsafat Eksistensialisme* by Vincent Martin, O.P, the world has no reason to exist, unlike human who have to seek their own essence in their life. Jean-Paul Sartre has explained that human being are different from other beings because of their freedom. The world is created to exist only not for seek the essence, man with his freedom must create himself in the sense he creates of his being. As the freedom to decide to be a human like whatever it is, they will choose its own essence, they creates themselves from nothingness (30).

From the freedom of human's choices, Jean-Paul Sartre said in his book entitled *Existentialism is Humanism* that human is responsible for they are. The responsibility is not for their own individuality, but that they are responsible for all human. So, everyone should choose something and consider the best for all the people around him (23).

Here, the researcher analyzes George's choices—as he condemned to be free—and responsibilities when he makes decisions to show his existence. Before that, the researcher will describe the character and the characterization. In addition, the researcher also describes the essences of George by his choices and responsibility.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study, this paper aims to analyze the main character in the novel *Of Mice and Men* named George Milton. This research concern about three research questions:

- 1. How is George Milton characterized?
- 2. How does George Milton show his existence through his choices and responsibilities?
- 3. How does George Milton describe his essence?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

- 1. To describe George Milton's character
- To describe George Milton's existence through his choices and responsibilities
- 3. To describe George Milton's essence

1.4 Significance of the Study

Through this study, the researcher hopes that the study can give advantages to the common readers, the academic community, and also the researcher himself to increase knowledge. By applying the theory existentialism of Jean-Paul Sartre in this study, the researcher is expecting the readers to understand more about the theories. And then, the result of this research is hoped to give inspiration to the next researcher.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is to discuss about the main character in the novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck—George Milton when shows his existence through his choices and responsibilities. This research aims to discuss about George's existence in every journey from Weed. So, the researcher uses existentialism theory by Jean-Paul Sartre to analyze George's existence showing in novel. The theory about everyone condemned to be free because everyone is subject.

1.6 Method of the Study

This research methodology comprises many aspects such as research design, data source, and data collect data analysis.

1.6.1 Research Design

Based on the statement of the problem and the significance of the study above, the method that is applied in this study is descriptive qualitative method. This study uses library and online researches in the process of collecting the data. The researcher makes *Of Mice and Men* to become main source and the subject of research to looking for George's existence through choices and responsibilities. To support this study, researcher also collected the data from books, articles, journals, websites, and the related studies from libraries or the internet. The main instrument of this research is the researcher himself.

1.6.2 Data Source

In this research, there are two sources of data that are primary and secondary data. The primary data is the novel *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. And the secondary data is taken from books, essay, journals or internet.

1.6.3 Data Collection

The method of collecting the data was library research method. Since the data were primary written data, the study was done by these following techniques:

- a. The researcher reads the novel several times and determining the issue that will be analyze.
- b. The researcher selects and collects data that show anything that
 connects the choices of the main character in the novel—George
 Milton— and the responsibilities for his choices and that is related
 with the theory of the study based in form of narration or
 conversation.
- The researcher makes notes of important parts both primary and secondary data.
- d. The researcher classifies the data into categories.

1.6.4 Data Analysis

- a. The researcher analyzes the data collected from the novel.
- b. The researcher describes George Milton to find the choices when he takes decision and his responsibilities in the novel.

- c. After the researcher collecting the choices and responsibilities of George Milton, he describes George's essence.
- d. The researcher makes a conclusion based on the result of data analyzing.



CHAPTER II

LITERARY REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Framework

This chapter aims to discuss about the theories that are going to be necessary need for this research. The theories are significant to guide for supporting and conducting this research. The researcher applies two theories that are used to help answer the research questions. In main theory, this research uses Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialism. For analyzing the main character in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, the researcher uses the second theory: new criticism. In the second theory, new criticism discusses about character and characterization—it uses to describe main character that can support when the character shows his existence. Accordingly, both of them are very important to this research that focuses on George's existence through of his choices and responsibilities. In addition, the previous research adds to give more understanding about the problem and the gap.

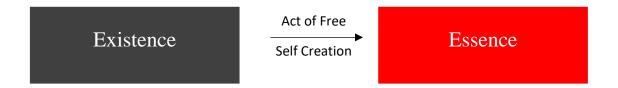
2.1 Existentialism

It is a matter of some dispute just who coined the term 'existentialism', but it is agreed that it was first used in the early 1940s to label the works of Simone de Beauvoir, Jean-Paul Sartre, and other Parisian writers who were focused at the time on the nature of human existence. Beauvoir and Sartre soon adopted it as a brand name for their shared philosophy. At the end of the Second World War,

they launched what Beauvoir calls 'the existentialist offensive', which was a series of books, popular articles, and public talks that attempted to influence the new cultural and political shape of France (Webber 2).

Jean-Paul Sartre defines existentialism as a doctrine according to which existence precedes and perpetually creates the essence (Archie 281-282). But in his philosophy, the existence of man, in creating his essence, is itself determined by the perpetually identical ontological structure of man, and the various concrete forms of man's existence sen'e only as examples of this structure. Sartre's existential analysis is a strictly philosophical one in the sense that it abstracts from the historical factors which constitute the empirical concreteness: the latter merely illustrates Sartre's metaphysical and meta-historical conceptions.

Human is a being for it self who individual is a subject instead of an object, so Jean-Paul Sartre in *Existentialism is Humanism* affirms that human makes themselves through their choices in actions. Human create essence for themselves because their essence precede their essence. Essence is a product of a person's mode of existence. One may say that man makes his essence. Sartre explain that each man is different and there is no common essence pertaining to all men. Subjectivity influences the essences of the man. Since the choices someone makes are their own choices and since someone always makes the better among alternatives, someone responsible for him and for what happens to others as result of making those choices. The responsibility is not only for his own individuality, but also for all men, as when someone chooses, he choose for everyone (Sartre 21).



"Man Makes Himself" it is what Jean-Paul Sartre said in his book entitled Existentialism is Humanism (46). Furthermore, for more understandable statement above, the researcher gives example: a book or a paper-knife—one sees that it has been made by an artisan who had a conception of it; and he has paid attention, equally, to the conception of a paper-knife and to the pre-existent technique of production which is a part of that conception and is, at bottom, a formula. Thus the paper-knife is at the same time an article producible in a certain manner and one which, on the other hand, serve a definite purpose, for one cannot suppose that a man would produce a paper-knife without knowing what it was for. Let us say, then, of the paperknife that its essence that is to say the sum of the formulae and the qualities which made its production and its definition possible—precedes its existence. It is totally that Sartre will say human is no same with the others creature.

At this point, paper-knife is only an inanimate object. Jean-Paul Sartre want to explain that the human position is not there. He says that man is both in-itself and for-itself. Hence there is an ambiguity surrounding man's being. It involves both facticity and freedom. Men are both physical objects—and hence Being-in-itself—and self-consciousnesses--and hence Being-for-itself. But the fact that the being of man is always a subject, and never an object affirms that man is a fundamentally different kind of being (Nellickappilly 3).

In other words, human is not created according to any pre-given metaphysical model. Human does not have a fixed and predefined essence in terms of which he understands himself. Hence his being is different from the being of a pen or a table. Sartre affirms that man makes himself through his choices and actions: he creates an essence for himself.

According to Jean-Paul Sartre, man makes himself through his choices.

When someone makes a choice between alternatives, he is affirming that what he has chosen is valuable, as he cannot choose the worse. What he choose is always the better and nothing can be better for him unless it is better for all.

This implies the aspect of responsibility that is attached with the choices we make in our life. Since the choices he makes are his own choices and since he always makes the better among the alternatives, he is responsible for them and for what happens to others and him as a result of making those choices. He is responsible not only for his own individuality, but also for all men, as when we choose, we choose for everyone. It calls the responsibility. It will describe clearly below about choices and responsibilities (Tidd 27).

a. Freedom in Choices

As explaining above about Sartre's perception in human's existence, he also envisions that man is condemned to be free. Freedom is the freedom to make choices in life (Nellickappilly 357). Freedom also plays a key role in the determination of consciousness. For Sartre, freedom is the being of humans and is inexorably linked to the being-for-itself. Although it sounds uncomfortable, if not

unnerving, he maintains that human beings are necessarily free, always, and it is impossible for a human to fail to be free. To fail to be free, in his view, is the same as to cease to be. So, the result Sartre ends up with—redefining the role of freedom as the mode of being of the being-for-itself —while unexpected, provides for a new way of looking at our lives. Sartre successfully sheds light on our understanding of ourselves and our choices in the world (Bautista 22).

Human's choices that set up limitations. There are no limitations as such — we choose our own limitations. Jean-Paul Sartre also differentiates between freedom of choice and freedom of action. To be free does not mean to obtain what one wishes but rather to determine oneself to wish in the broad sense of choosing. Freedom, for him, is only the autonomy of choice (Bautista 23).

b. Responsibilities

The idea of freedom also calls for the notion of responsibility. Human are free to make choices in their lives, we are also responsible for those choices. Hence freedom is linked with the possibility of authentic or truly human life. Sartre affirms that, what is important is not what is chosen, but in what manner it is chosen. Hence in order to have an authentic life one has to recognize the inescapability of freedom and accept the responsibility associated with it. Since responsibility is associated with freedom, one cannot escape the anguish that may follow the inescapability of freedom (Nellickappilly 357).

c. Humanism

Humanism is the viewpoint that people have but one life to lead and should make the most of it in terms of creative work and happiness; that human happiness is its own justification and requires no sanction or support from supernatural sources; that in any case the supernatural, usually conceived of in the form of heavenly gods or immortal heavens, does not exist; and that human beings, using their own intelligence and cooperating liberally with one another, can build an enduring citadel of peace and beauty upon this earth. Humanism asserts that human reason and human efforts are our best and, indeed, only hope; and that our refusal to recognize this point is one of the chief causes of our many human failures throughout history. Humanism is interested in a future life, not in the sense of some fabulous paradise in the skies, but as the ongoing enjoyment of earthly existence by generation after generation through eternities of time (Lamont 15-16).

In the case of existentialism, Sartre begins the lecture by announcing that it is his purpose to defend existentialism against its critics from Catholic. Against such critics, Sartre maintains that existentialism is a humanism in the sense that it is a doctrine that renders human life possible. This is humanism, because we remind man that there is no legislator but himself; that he himself, thus abandoned, must decide for himself; also because we show that it is not by turning back upon himself, but always by seeking, beyond himself, an aim which is one of liberation, of some particular realization, that man will realize himself precisely as human (Baldwin 673).

In addition, people who has ideologist humanism is humanists. They are non-religious people who live by moral principles based on reason and respect for others, not obedience to dogmatic rules. They promote happiness and fulfilment in this life because they believe it is the only one we have. Humanist concern for quality of life and respect for personal autonomy lead to the view that in many circumstances voluntary euthanasia is the morally right course. People should have the right to choose a painless and dignified end, either at the time or beforehand, perhaps in a "living will". The right circumstances might include: extreme pain and suffering; helplessness and loss of personal dignity; permanent loss of those things which have made life worth living for this individual. To postpone the inevitable with no intervening benefit is not a moral act. Individuals should be allowed to decide on such personal matters for themselves; if someone in possession of full information and sound judgement decides that her continued life has no value, her wishes should be respected. While humanists generally support voluntary euthanasia, they also uphold the need for certain safeguards (British Humanis Association).

2.1.2 New Criticism

New Criticism occupies an unusual position, both in this textbook and in the field of literary studies today. On the one hand, it's the only theory covered in this book that is no longer practiced by literary critics, so it can't really be called a contemporary theory. On the other hand, New Criticism, which dominated literary studies from the 1940s through the 1960s, has left a lasting imprint on the way we read and write about literature (Tyson 135).

a. Character

All stories must have certain characteristics or elements. Without these elements, any piece of literature would cease to make sense or serve a purpose. For example, stories must have a plot, or events that take place. Another essential story element is the character. Character can be defined as any person, animal, or figure represented in a literary work. There are many types of characters that exist in literature, each with its own development and function (Janovsky)

b. Characterization

The difficulty of achieving character theory or complete and coherent characterization is therefore related to the impartiality of the term character in relation to humans, and the question of whether it exists only in the text, or has a relationship with the entity outside the text. These considerations can be described as ontological, because they touch the origin of the character. Uncertainty in character ontology may affect a person's methodology in character analysis: characters, for example, are comparable to real humans, or we should restrict our text. In this case, we have a writer like William H. Gass, who argues that the story and the people in it are made of words. On the other hand, a prominent trend in twentieth-century research concerns the attempts of characters to search for previous reasons for character behavior, even if this reason is not found in the story itself (Janovsky).

2.2 Review of Related Studies

To support this study, the researcher uses some undergraduate thesis from the previous researcher who also study and doing their research with existentialism theory. The thesis that the researcher use as review of related literature are:

In the first, *The Existentialism in Mark Twain's The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Nur Azizah (2016). The goals of thesis are to describe existence of Huckleberry Finn as the main character. Huckleberry Finn shows the concepts of freedom when he tried to get a freedom for himself and also help Jim to be a real free man not a slave again. Then for the concept of choices was when he takes a decision after thinking hard to help Jim being free or not. For the concept of responsibility is shown when Huckleberry Finn takes response after Jim told him about his family, so that Huckleberry Finn feels pitiful and then take a responsibility with helping Jim to create his dreams become a free man and buys his family from their owner. The last is the concept of humanity, it can be seen when Huckleberry Finn shows his depiction of people's courage by taking an action to helping Jim become a free man and not a slave again.

And the second, *An Existentialism Analysis, The Joker's Resistance Found in The Solitaire Mystery Novel* by Jostein Gaarder by Muammar Hasan (2014). This thesis describes Joker's Resistance is like revenge. It means Joker realizes that he is different to the fifty two dwarf. Through his existentialism, Joker also finds many truths like the truth that he exist, the truth that he is Frode's creation, the truth that Frode is creator while all the dwarfs are his creations.

To prove his existentialism, Joker kills Frode in front of all the dwarfs. Joker does his resistance because he feels that Frode arrogated his existence and freedom.

Joker gets the feeling above, because he lives together with Frode in one place. It means in the magic island. In this situation, Joker realizes that he cannot live together with his creator because Joker feels that hos existence and freedom are

threatened if he often meets Frode in the magic island. So, Joker kills Frode to regain his pride.

The similarities between this research and those two research are used the same theory of Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialism to analyze. Furthermore, the all researchers also focus on the analysis of the main character. The difference between this study and those previous ones is different object. Then, in this research, the researcher analyzes the character that influences or becomes the justification of George Milton's existence.

CHAPTER III

GEORGE MILTON'S EXISTENCE

This chapter aims to answer the statement of the problems. This chapter contains the analysis concerning George Milton as the main character. The researcher makes three part of the analysis, the first part is to explore characterization of George Milton, the second is to analyze George's existence through his choices and responsibilities, and the third is to describe George's essence.

3.1 George Milton Characterization

There are some characters appear in the story. This analysis of the character appears because it influences or becomes justification of George Milton's choices and responsibilities. Not all the characters are mostly being told and always presented in at every part and can be found on every pages. Only the main character becomes the central character of the story in the novel who will analyze. He is the character who is mostly being told, as the casts and the ones who are being the subject of the scene. (Nurgiyantoro 176-177).

George Milton is the main character in the novel. He is central character in the novel because the course of the story depends on him. The other character—Lennie Small, Candy, Whit, Crooks, Carlson, Slim, The Boss, Curley, Curley's Wife—supports George to complete the plot of story that the author and readers want. In this research, the researcher finds some characters of George Milton, which are a kind, brave, care, and dodgy person.

a. George Milton as A Kind Person

George Milton is shown in *Of Mice and Men* as a kind man and can be called a hero. It shows when George chooses to stay with the oppressed people. He always helps anyone who needs aid. Not everyone is going to be patient with this situations, but George with his kind character always makes someone beside him is helped. He decides being together with the one who gets the trouble in his Mental—Lennie. Moreover, people gets a lot of personal necessity, maybe this decision always to help the other will be not taken. But, it is not about George Milton. In this novel, George Milton as guardian angel for weak human. In the other hand, he is also with Candy. The researcher will show the quotation from novel John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* as a proof below:

"George, you want I should go away and leave you alone?" "Where the hell could you go?" "Well, I could. I could go off in the hills there. Some place I'd find a cave." "Yeah' How'd you eat. You ain't got sense enough to find nothing to eat." "I'd find things, George. I don't need no nice food with ketchup. I'd lay out in the sun and nohody'd hurt me; An' if I foun' a mouse, I could keep it. Nobody'd take it away from me." George looked quickly and searchingly at him. "I been mean, ain't I?" "If you don' want me I can go off in the hills an' find a cave. I can go away any time." "No-look! I was jus' foolin', Lennie." (Steinbeck 14)

The explanation above tells about George with his good behavior that cannot leave Lennie. Lennie sucks that makes George is angry when the two of them are together in the night after flee from Wedd. This is the following pharagraph that explain the Lennie's annoying behavior.

George decides to stay around the river and not go to a new workplace directly. They are both preparing to make a bonfire for the dinner. George take out the beans and then asked Lennie for a twig. However, Lennie did not immediately look for a branch so they could cook immediately, instead he said if he likes to eat beans with ketchup, "Lennie said, "I like beans with ketchup."" (Steinbeck 10).

Lennie heavily stood and disappeared behind the bush. George was still lying waiting for his friend to find firewood. Not take a long time, Lennie comes but instead he brings a dead rat. George Milton begins to regret, he asks for the mouse and threw it far, "George stood up and threw the mouse as far as he could into the darkening brush, and then he stepped to the pool and washed his hands." (Steinbeck 11). Then George Milton points out where the twigs has to take Lennie.

Lennie comes back with twigs and dried leaves. He lays them on the ashes of the previous campfire and then he goes again to search for more. Now, George has a job to burn wood and dried leaves then he opens three cans of beans. George says the beans are usually enough for four people. They should be grateful for eating more servings. But with the pampered of Lennie said if he wants to eat beans with ketchup eventhough they do not have it. "Lennie watched him from over the fire. He said patiently, "I like 'em with ketchup." (Steinbeck 12).

The will of Lennie makes George to be angry. Actually, after escaping from Wedd. It is time to George Milton to rest soon. George starts to remind again about the incident on Wedd when Lennie touched women's clothes and the

incidents that always troubled George Milton, ""Jus' wanted to feel that girl's dress - jus' wanted to pet it like it was a mouse - Well, how the hell did she know you jus' wanted to feel her dress?" (Steinbeck 13).

Unexpectedly, George's anger is greeted by the regret of Lennie Small. It makes Lennie to want to leave George, ""George, you want I should go away and leave you alone?"" (Steinbeck 14). George's word makes Lennie to feel wrong. As Lennie does, he looks like a child. He never thinks if he actually is unable to live alone. He did not think long and then he tells George to leave by declaring to live alone and goes to the hills and looks for a cave for a place to live. Lennie cannot live with no one beside him.

George shows that he is kind person. He declares that he is only joking about the anger to Lennie that has been done. Because George has a high sense of humanism, he does not have the heart if Lennie left with such circumstances, it support by George's words, "I want you to stay with me, Lennie. Jesus Christ, somebody'd shoot you for a coyote if you was by yourself. No, you stay with me. Your Aunt Clara wouldn't like you running off by yourself, even if she is dead." (Steinbeck 14). George tells that to Lennie to make him and cancel his desire. If George does not have good character and sensitive to humanism. This is an opportunity of George to let Lennie go with his serious mental disability and George will be free man.

Moreover, after George moving to a new ranch, George shows that he is kind person. He also becomes a help deity for the other employee—Old Candy.

He asks him with a plan to make the own house and have a new job. The following quote describes that:

"Candy sat on the edge of his bunk. He scratched the stump of his wrist nervously. "I got hurt four year ago," he said. "They'll can me purty soon. Jus' as soon as I can't swamp out no bunk houses they'll put me on the county. Maybe if I give you guys my money, you'll let me hoe in the garden even after I ain't no good at it. An' I'll wash dishes an' little chicken stuff like that. But I'll be on our own place, an' I'll be let to work on our own place." He said miserably, "You seen what they done to my dog tonight? They says he wasn't no good to himself nor nobody else. When they can me here I wisht somebody'd shoot me. But they won't do nothing like that. I won't have no place to go, an' I can't get no more jobs. I'll have thirty dollars more comin', time you guys is ready to quit."" (Steinbeck 61-62).

The quotation above shows that George helps weak employee. Old Candy is an old man whose hand is deformed for four years in ranch. He can not do heavy work like the youth do on the farm. He is only given housework by the boss as it sweeps the rest home. He cannot do a job like a rancher. He is afraid of his fate like his dog being killed because he is old and cannot do anything. Then, old Candy said he wanted to go with George even if he is only given a job farming or washing dishes, which she must be working on his own.

"George half-closed his eyes. "I gotta think about that. We was always going to do it by ourselves."" (Steinbeck 61). This quotation tells that George actually still be able to doubt inviting Old Candy to his plan. Because Old Candy is new people that George just knows in ranch. But, because of Old candy condition that has no relatives. George finally invites Old Candy to his plan.

George does not let Old Candy in tormented place—ranch. They will help each other out. George does not feel difficult. Kind person will be got good

feedback. Instead he want to write a letter and send a deposit in order to buy the house with Candy's money first. That is George with his good nature. He will give the help of the others that need help. He does not think of his condition that will be difficult or not.

b. George Milton as A Brave Person

There's some part in this novel, John Steinbeck tells George characters automatically looks like a brave person when he involved in Lennie's problem—when George persuades Lennie to flee from Wedd. This is the following quotation from the novel of Josh Steinbeck, *Of Mice and Men*:

"George carefully built his line of solitaire cards. "Well, that girl rabbits in an' tells the law she been raped. The guys in Wedd start a party out to lynch Lennie. So we sit in a irrigation ditch under water all the rest of that day. Got on'y our heads sticking outa water, an' up under the grass that sticks out from the side of the ditch. An' that night we scrammed outa there."" (Steinbeck 42-43)

Lennie—in this novel—described as a man who so stupid and always do weird things. Like when Lennie sees a girl in a red dress, he wants to touch everything he likes, so he reaches out to feel this red dress and the girl lets out a squawk. The girl tells the law that she has been raped, and that makes the guys from Wedd starts chase him.

The quotation above explains that George who is smarter than Lennie, with his brave and risk his own life, save Lennie and ask him to escape. This decision can kill George and he knew that, because when he get involved in Lennie's problem so he will get too.

c. George Milton as A Dodgy Person

There's some part in this novel, George characters is also a dodgy man in *Of Mice and Men*, it's proven by every George's problems are solved. This is the following quotation from the novel of John Steinbeck, *Of Mice and Men*:

""That ranch we're goin' to is right down there about a quarter mile. We're gonna go in an' see the boss. Now, look - I'll give him the work tickets, but you ain't gonna say a word. You jus' stand there and don't say nothing. If he finds out what a crazy bastard you are, we won't get no job, but if he sees ya work before he hears ya talk, we're set. Ya got that?"
"Sure, George. Sure I got it."

"O.K. Now when we go in to see the boss, what you gonna do?"
"I.... I," Lennie thought. His face grew tight with thought. "I.... ain't gonna say nothin'. Jus' gonna stan' there."" (Steinbeck 8)

George is a dodgy man, when he knows Lennie's condition, he tries to make him acceptable in his new work field which is in the new ranch. As like the quotation above, George's way asks Lennie to stay still when he meets the Boss, so that Lennie can work in that new ranch too.

But, when they meet the Boss in the ranch, the Boss has feel suspicious.

Because all of the question he asked was answered only by George.

"The boss pointed a playful finger at Lennie." He ain't much of a talker, is he?" "No, he ain't, but he's sure a hell of a good worker. Strong as a bull." Lennie smiled to himself. "Strong as a bull," he repeated. George scowled at him, and Lennie dropped his head in shame at having forgotten. The boss said suddenly, "Listen, Small!" Lennie raised his head. What can you do?" In a panic, Lennie looked at George for help. "He can do anything you.tell him," said George. "He' a good skinner. He can rassel grain bags, drive cultivator. He can do anything. Just give him a try." The boss turned on George. "Then why don't you let him answer? What are you trying to put over?"" (Steinbeck 22)

The quotation above describes, that the Boss feels odd with the questions are only answered by George. Lennie who has promised to stay still when they

meets the Boss—then asked like that—he feels confused and look at George to help him answer the Boss. And that makes George has to find a way for convince the Boss.

"But I say he's a God damn good worker. He can put up a four hundred pound bale." (Steinbeck 23). George tells the Boss that Lennie has a good personality, strong, and can do whatever he asks to do—like he can put up a four hundred pound bale. George doesn't tell the Boss about the mental disability of Lennie in their conversation. But, George only tells about the good personalities of Lennie.

"I said what stake you got in this guy? You takin' his pay away from him?" (Steinbeck 23). The Boss feels more suspicious with their gestures. That condition makes the Boss believes that George has hiding something, so the Boss provokes George with question is he take advantage of Lennie?

"The boss deliberately put the little book in his pocket. He hooked his thumbs in his belt and squinted one eye nearly closed. "Say - what you sellin'?"

"Huh'"

"I said what stake you got in this guy? You takin' his pay away from him?"

"No, 'course I ain't. Why ya think I'm sellin' him out?"

"Well, I never seen one guy take so much trouble for another guy. I just like to know what your interest is."

George said, "He's my.... cousin. I told his old lady I'd take care of him. He got kicked in the head by a horse when he was a kid, He's awright. Just ain't bright. But he can do anything you tell him."" (Steinbeck 23)

The Boss more pressing George, but George doesn't lose his sense so he always has an idea to answer the Boss question. When the Boss asking about is he only takes advantage of Lennie, George tells the Boss that Lennie is his cousin.

George's answer can convince the Boss to make him accepting Lennie and not asking him anymore.

3.2 George Milton's Existence Through His Choice and Responsibilities

The existence of human has been shown by their choices and responsibilities. As Sartre claims, existence of human precedes essence. Human defines his own essence and gives meaning to his own existence through the choices he makes. According to Jean Paul Sartre in *Existentialism is a Humanism*, human is a being for itself who individual is a subject instead of an object, so Sartre affirms that human makes themselves through their choices in actions. Sartre explain that each man is different and there is no common essence pertaining to all men. Subjectivity influences the essences of the man. Since the choices someone makes are their own choices and since someone always makes the better among alternatives, someone responsible for him and for what happens to others as result of making those choices. The responsibility is not only for his own individuality, but also for all men, as when someone chooses, he choose for everyone (21).

In this case, the researcher focuses on the choices and responsibilities of George Milton in his journey. After he escapes from Wedd—the previous workplace of him—and decides to move to Soledad, the consciousness of human's existence of him starts to appear. This is the general overview of his choices: George flees from Wedd, keeps staying on the new ranch, plans to buy the new house, and keeps Lennie staying in ranch. And there are four

responsibilities of his choices: George looks for the new job, saves Lennie from Curley, plans to look for another job, and shows a safe place to Lennie.

3.2.1 George Milton's Choices

a. George Milton Flees from Wedd

George Milton shows the concept of freedom in choices in *Of Mice and Men*. The first choice appears in the beginning of the story, George escapes

Lennie from Wedd. As readers know, George Milton escapes Lennie from

Wedd—the workplace of him that is specifically ranch. This is the quotation of that:

"George said, "I want you to stay with me, Lennie. Jesus Christ, somebody'd shoot you for a coyote if you was by yourself. No, you stay with me. Your Aunt Clara wouldn't like you running off by yourself, even if she is dead."" (Steinbeck 14)

The quotation above telling about George asks Lennie to stay together. The reason why he asks him is because George has to take responsibility about Lennie. Lennie's conditions who has mental disability cannot live alone. The quotation above says if Lennie walks on the road alone, people will kill him because they will see Lennie as a dog coyote. Everything which can dangerous one of them, will consider that destroy both of them.

George was born in the same town with Lennie—Auburn. He knows well Lennie's Aunt—Clara. When Aunt Clara is gone, George has responsibility to take care Lennie who has mental disability and of course Lennie can not live with no one. "When his Aunt Clara died, Lennie just come along with me out workin'."

(Steinbeck 41). They are both looking for a job together and they both feels like family. Finally after looking for a job, they both got a job at a ranch in Wedd.

Working challenge in Wedd, apparently, is not trivial. As explained before, if there is a danger whether it is for George or Lennie, it will endanger both of them. Lennie's mental sickness was in serious condition. Lennie likes soft things such as clothes, fur, and hair. This can be big problem. Lennie caressed skirt of a girl from Wedd and created a misunderstanding as men over there that expecting Lennie to rape the girl in the ranch.

George and Lennie applied job together in Wedd. Whatever endanger

Lennie will be dangerous for George also and be their problem. George has to flee
with Lennie from Wedd to bring theirselves save from the pursuing. It is a

difficult decision. But, it is George's responsibility as a person who has
commitment because George has responsibility to save Lennie.

"They had walked in single file down the path, and even in the open one stayed behind the other. Both were dressed in denim trousers and in denim coats with buttons. Both wore black shapeless hats and both carried tight blanket rolls slung over their shoulders. The first man was small and quick, dark of face with restless eyes and sharp, strong features. Every part of him was defined: small, strong hands, slender arms, a thin and bony nose. Behind him walked his opposite, a huge man, shapeless of face, with large, pale eyes, with wide, sloping shoulders; and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws. His arms did not swing at his sides, but hung loosely." (Steinbeck 4)

The quotation above shows the George Milton's condition in escape. He escapes in hard situation. The symbol of that is he uses denim trousers, shapeless hat, and carried tight blanket rolls. It is shows escape situation, not an special

journey or holiday. George Milton is not alone, he decides to flee with his friend—Lennie Small.

""Run us out, hell," said George disgustedly. "We run. They was lookin' for us, but they didn't catch us." (Steinbeck 8). This quotation about the effect of his escape. He has run by ranch's employee. George runs away to avoid them and hide behind the bushes with Lennie. Finally they can survive and cannot catch. Then George decides to rest by the river. It is George's choice to flee from Wedd that full of dare.

b. George Milton Keeps Staying on New Ranch

Keep staying on new ranch is the one that can show George's Existence because it is his choices. George has to collet money in the new ranch as the quotation ""We gotta get a big stake together." (Steinbeck 58), and then this is the complete following quotation:

"George watched him suspiciously. "Well-I could get it for six hundred bucks. The ol' people that owns it is flat bust an' the of lady needs an operation. Say-what's it to you? You got nothing to do with us."" (Steinbeck 60)

The quotation above explains the reasons for George to choose to stay on his new ranch after escaping from Wedd. George choose this decision because he has a target to buy a house for 600 dollars. By stay working on Wedd for a month, he will get 50 dollars. It will get addition from Lennie in amount 50 dollar. All money become 100 dollars. The purchase of the house is helped by Lennie and Old Candy. Old Candy also joins with George's plan, so he also give the money

that he has collected from 300 dollars—250 dollars is given because Old Candy is disabled and 50 dollars is in the bank—and at the end of this month Old Candy getting 50 dollars. So, if George is settled for a month he will earn money with an accumulated 450 dollars that would be used to buy his target house.

"In one month. Right squack in one month. Know what I'm gon'ta do? I'm gon'ta write to them old people that owns the place that we'll take it. An' Candy'll send a hunderd dollars to bind her."
(Steinbeck 62)

The quotation above explains that in a month George will write a letter to the parents of the house owner to purchase the house. Later, George will give 100 dollars from Candy to the house owner as a down payment. Therefore, George will choose to settle on the new ranch for one month even though the situation on the ranch is very uncomfortable.

As like George Milton did when he knew the new workplace has a hostile environment.

"Listen to me, you crazy bastard," he said fiercely. "Don't you even take a look at that bitch. I don't care what she says and what she does. I seen 'em poison before, but I never seen no piece of jail bait worse than her. You leave her be." (Steinbeck 33)

The quotation is telling about the situation in the new ranch which look so uncomfortable. The existence of Curley's wife—gadfly girl—also can make Lennie get big trouble and fight with Curley. The habit of Curley's wife is like Whit says, "She got the eye goin' all the time on everybody. I bet she even gives the stable buck the eye. I don't know what the hell she wants." (Steinbeck 52). She is going to make a mess with her habit, she is a jail bait all set on the trigger.

"Lennie leaned eagerly toward him. "Le's go, George. Le's get outta here. It's mean here."

"We gotta stay," George said shortly. "Shut up now. The guys'll be cumin'in." (Steinbeck 34)

An assumption about the uncomfortable place is also supported by racial action in new ranch—there is a nigger that alienated with the others employee because he forces to occupies negro's room. The uncomfortable workplace keeps George to stay at the new ranch, although Lennie who is his best friend also asks him to move out because of there are so many problems.

c. George Milton Plans to Buy The New House

George Milton actually does not want to work in somebody else's place.

That can be sure when George have a plan to buy new house. After that, the readers can know as clear as possible that George has a choice to have his own house and works for himself.

"Sure, we'd have a little house an' a room..."

"When Candy spoke they both jumped as though they had been caught doing something reprehensible. Candy said, "You know where's a place like that?"

George was on guard immediately. "S'pose I do," he said. "What's that to you?"

"You don't need to tell me where it's at. Might be any place."

"Sure," said George. "That's right. You couldn't find it in a hundred years." Candy went on excitedly, "How much they want for a place like that?" George watched him suspiciously. "Well-I could get it for six hundred bucks. The ol' people that owns it is flat bust an' the of lady needs an operation. Say-what's it to you? You got nothing to do with us." (Steinbeck 59-60)

The quotation reflects the choice of George to have new house. He always wants to invite Lennie to occupy that house. Sometimes, he often tells the planning to Lennie to make him happy. Goerge tells the planning about little fat

iron stove, and in the winter they will keep a fire going in it. George imagines that he has enough land so he has to work too hard. Maybe six, seven hours a day. He will not have to buck no barley eleven hours a day as in ranch. And when he put in a crop, he will be enjoying his own harvest.

The quotation represents George's choice to buy new house with escaping from new ranch at the best time after he has enough money. Old Candy comes over them, when George discuss about new house. This situation makes George and Lennie shocked. On the contrary, George's choice can influence Candy. Candy wants to participate in helping to realize George's plan. Actually, George Milton is a little suspicious of Candy, because he is a newly recognizable person. George finally explained the house he was going to buy. The homeowner's family is in need of money so George can take advantage of it by buying the house in low price.

""Sure," said George. "All kin's a vegetables in the garden, and if we want a little whisky we can sell a few eggs or something, or some milk. We'd jus' live there. We'd belong there. There wouldn't be no more runnin' round the country and gettin' fed by a Jap cook. No, sir, we'd have our own place where we belonged and not sleep in no bunt house."" (Steinbeck 59)

The reason why George wants to buy new house is because he wants to have a peaceful life. There is no one to be able to disturb him. There will be no more running to escape because he has a house for himself and do not sleep in the other house. After that, he will be made a business by selling a few eggs or some milk. If he get new house, he will get a win of himself.

d. George Keeps Lennie to Stay on The Ranch

George chooses to keep Lennie in a ranch although Lennie always makes a trouble. This is the commitment of George. From the beginning, he does not want to leave his best friend—Lennie—who always with him, as this quotation, ""But you get used to goin' around with a guy an' you can't get rid of him."" (Steinbeck 42). The quotation is told by Goegre when he takes a conversation with Slim to talk about Lennie.

George Milton has known Lennie from the childhood. Lennie has brought up by Lennie's aunt—Clara. After his aunt has gone. George takes responsibility of Lennie, because he has known Aunt Clara well. George looks for a job with Lennie and finally getting job in Wedd. After that, they move to new ranch because there some problem over there. And, finally, Lennie also makes problem in new ranch—Lennie ever kills Slim's puppy.

That is the choice of George, this choice has taken by George with many consequence because Lennie has mental disability.

""Yeah, they get mean," Slim agreed. "They get so they don't want to talk to nobody."

"'Course Lennie's a God damn nuisance most of the time," said George.

"But you get used to goin' around with a guy an' you can't get rid of him."

"He ain't mean," said Slim. "I can see Lennie ain't a bit mean."" (Steinbeck 42)

The conversation happens in the afternoon, when George is playing cards with Slim. George declares George's choice to stay with Lennie, George can not leave Lennie even though he is very annoying. George eventually also told Slim in relation to what had happened at Wedd. A moment later Lennie also came up with problems again, he took the puppy into the place to stay and hide on his

stomach, the puppy had just been born. That's what Lennie is doing that keeps George casual.

3.2.2 George Responsibilities for His Choices

a. George Milton Looks for The New Job

The concept of freedom does not suggest a metaphysical theory of human nature. Inescapability of freedom does not mean that each individual can choose whatever he wants. Jean-Paul Sartre argues that, freedom is inescapable as it determines the nature of our being. This inescapability suggests that we have to make choices with responsibility (Nellickappily).

Responsibility is a job or obligation that must be borne by someone as the consequence of choice that has been taken because it involves all mankind (Sartre 24). People have to receive what the consequence is, although it possibly can create anguish, anxiety, and despair condition (Sartre 25). From the first George's choice Flees from Wedd, George has consequence from getting out of the job. Of course, they have no job. So, he has responsible to look for another job for himself and his friend. He gets another job on a ranch like in north.

[&]quot;"Well - look, we're gonna work on a ranch like the one we come from up north"

[&]quot;O.K. Now when we go in to see the boss, what you gonna do?"

[&]quot;I.... I," Lennie thought. His face grew tight with thought. "I.... ain't gonna say nothin'. Jus' gonna stan' there."

[&]quot;Good boy. That's swell. You say that over two, three times so you sure won't forget it."

Lennie droned to himself softly, "I ain't gonna say nothin'.... I ain't gonna say nothin'.... I ain't gonna say nothin'."

[&]quot;O.K.," said George. "An' you ain't gonna do no bad things like you done in Wedd, neither."" (Steinbeck 8)

George has no the one that can help for his financial necessity, so he has to get a job. The quotation tells that George has found the new ranch. Then, he make a planning to meet a boss before enter the new ranch. He also invite Lennie to work in same place, the first quote, he makes sure that Lennie will understand what George want. Lennie should be silent, because he often do something that makes all messy. It remembers us about as what Lennie do in previous workplace. Finally, Lennie follows George's order when they meet boss.

""You said I was your cousin, George." "Well, that was a lie. An I'm damn ..." (Steinbeck 24). In this quotation, George has a strategy to make the boss sure. His strategy is lying to the boss, he tells the boss that Lennie is his family—cousin. When he tells that Lennie is his family, the Boss will not think about criminality. They stuck on bad situation in conversation when meet boss. George has to make Lennie recieved in new ranch, so George convince boss. George decide to do it all for himself and Lennie to be able work on a new ranch.

b. George Milton Saves Lennie from Curley

As Jean-Paul Sartre existentialism theory, responsibility is an action to respond of consequences from choices that has been taken by human. George Milton has been resposible of his choice that has been taken to stay on new ranch in uncomfortable condition, it makes Lennie always save from Curley. This is the following quotation:

[&]quot;"That's not what I meant. You remember where we slep' last night? Down by the river?"

[&]quot;Yeah. I remember. Oh, sure I remember! I go there an' hide in the brush."

[&]quot;Hide till I come for you. Don't let nobody see you. Hide in the brush by the river. Say that over."

[&]quot;Hide in the brush by the river, down in the brush by the river."

"If you get in trouble."

"If I get in trouble."

A brake screeched outside. A call came, "StableBuck. Oh! Sta-able Buck." George said, "Say it over to yourself, Lennie, so you won't forget it."" (Steinbeck 32)

George has a bestfriend who are always together—who else—he is Lennie. George has to make Lennie always save over there. The quotation above is George's statement of responsibility for his choice to stay on the ranch. George makes a plan if Lennie will do something stupid, such as he responds Curley's wife that can bring him in to jail. Curley has high sensitivity with Lennie. The readers also already know that Lennie likes soft things such as clothes, fur, and hair. This can be big problem like in previous ranch—Wedd that finally can make Lennie to has to flee. Here, we will know that George is existence with his choice and responsibility. The planning of George asks Lennie to hide in the brush by the river. It can make Lennie save when he get the trouble. According to Sartre, human has freedom to choose but he also must be responsible for his choice.

c. George Milton Plans to Look for Another Job

George Milton—the central character—with Lennie and Candy have a small salary. The price of new house is a six hundred. Although George can ask Lennie and Candy to make a contribution to buy house, the total of their money still 450 hundred dollars in end of month. The total of amount their money is still less 150 dollars. George's choice to buy a new house of his own that has to be redeemed by work again in another place "Then you an' Lennie could go get her started an' I'd get a job an' make up the res', an' you could sell eggs an' stuff like that." (Steinbeck 61).

This is the responsibility of George to realize of the planning. George Milton is responsible of his choice that he will take—buying a new home that is not easy "Candy said, "I ain't much good with on'y one hand. I lost my hand right here on this ranch." (Steinbeck 61). George Milton is conscious of his existence. Goerge must be fully responsible, because his choice also has influenced Candy to join. Candy's situation that is flawed and old.

d. George Milton Shows A Safe Place to Lennie

George's choice does not just an action without responsibility. It shows when George's responsibility to choose keeping Lennie at the ranch.

"George motioned with his spoon again. "Look, Lennie. I want you to look around here. You can remember this place, can't you? The ranch is about a quarter mile up that way. Just follow the river?" "Sure," said Lennie. "I can remember this. Di'n't I remember about not gonna say a word?"

"'Course you did. Well, look Lennie - if you jus' happen to get in trouble like you always done be fore, I want you to come right here an' hide in the brush."

"Hide in the brush," said Lennie slowly.

"Hide in the brush till I come for you. Can you remember that?"

"Sure I can, George. Hide in the brush till you come."" (Steinbeck 17)

The quotation above explains that George shows a place around the river to Lennie that is about quarter mile from the new ranch. It is a safe place with a brush to hide. George shows this place for Lennie when he sometimes gets a problem that can threaten him like in previous ranch.

Finally, Lennie makes a trouble, he repeated touching soft things. He touchs the hair of Curley's wife with his big fingers. The Curley's wife cries angrily and rebells to be released. Curley's wife struggles violently under Lennies hands. He is suddenly angry and going to make Curley's wife to be silent. Lennie is afraid

that George will hear Curley's wife yelling and George does not give permission to Lennie if keeping puppy. It will certainly have a serious impact on Lennie himself. Ended up he is chased by Curley and all the workers from the ranch. Lennie's habit was irreversible.

"Suddenly Lennie appeared out of the brush, and he came as silently as a creeping bear moves. The heron pounded the air with its wings, jacked itself clear of the water and flew off down river." (99)

The quotation shows that after Lennie makes trouble in a ranch like explanation above, he goes to the safe place as George has shown. So, ranch's people especially Curley cannot find Lennie on the farm after he makes a trouble. Lennie was safe from assassination.

3.3 George Milton's Essence

In the case of existentialism, Jean-Paul Sartre begins the lecture by announcing that it is his purpose to defend existentialism against its critics from Chatolic. Against such critics, Sartre maintains that existentialism is a humanism in the sense that it is a doctrine that renders human life possible. In this case, the researcher focuses on human life. Because the first result of existentialism is that it puts every man in possession of himself as he is, and places the entire responsibility for his existence squarely upon his own shoulders. And, when the one says that man is responsible for himself, he does not mean that he is responsible only for his own individuality, but that he is responsible for all human.

In the novel by John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, the researcher describes that George is a humanist one. It explains when George Milton's choice to always be with a weak and oppressed one. It can be seen in the quotation below:

""Course Lennie's a God damn nuisance most of the time," said George.

"'Course he ain't mean. But he gets in trouble alla time because he's so God damn dumb. Like what happened in Wedd-" he stopped, stopped in the middle of turning over a card. He looked alarmed and peered over at Slim. "You wouldn't tell nobody?"" (Steinbeck 42)

From the quotation above, we can know that George Milton shows that he is humanist one. Because George Milton shows the sincerity of him to always beside Lennie—a weak one who has mental disability. And also, some quotations show George Milton has spirit to, such as when he invite Candy to escape ranch that always concerning him.

In the other hand, George Milton as humanist one shows when he thinks to be very responsible of Lennie because he has chosen to stay with Lennie who always makes problem. George makes Lennie to be safe from the murder of ranch employees.

"Then Slim went quietly over to her, and he felt her wrist. One lean finger touched her cheek, and then his hand went under her slightly twisted neck and his fingers explored her neck. When he stood up the men crowded near and the spell was broken. Curley came suddenly to life. "I know who done it," he cried. "That big son-of-a-bitch done it. I know he done it. Whyever'body else was out there playin' horseshoes." He worked himself into a fury. "I'm gonna get him. I'm going for my shotgun. I'll kill the big son-of-a-bitch myself. I'll shoot 'im in the guts. Come on, you guys." He ran furiously out of the barn. Carlson said, "I'll get my Luger," and he ran out too.

[&]quot;But you get used to goin' around with a guy an' you can't get rid of him."

[&]quot;He ain't mean," said Slim.

[&]quot;I can see Lennie ain't a bit mean."

Slim turned quietly to George. "I guess Lennie done it, all right," he said. "Her neck's bust. Lennie coulda did that." George didn't answer, but he nodded slowly. His hat was so far down on his forehead that his eyes were covered." (Steinbeck 95-96)

After Lennie accidentally killed Curley's wife, with the intention of just touching her soft hair, the situation becomes messed up. Everyone who played in the yard of the ranch is run closer to enter the horse stable. But everyone does not find Lennie anymore.

The sadistic murder looks like will happen when Curley says and judge

Lennie with the harsh word, "That big son-of-a-bitch done it," (Steinbeck 96).

Curley still has a personal grudge against Lennie when Lennie broke his hand.

Who else will do it, only Lennie was a big and strong man who often at horse stable playing Slim's puppy. Finally, Lennie can run out of the employees' anger who maybe killed him. Lennie escapes to the safe place that George has shown before Lennie got to the ranch.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

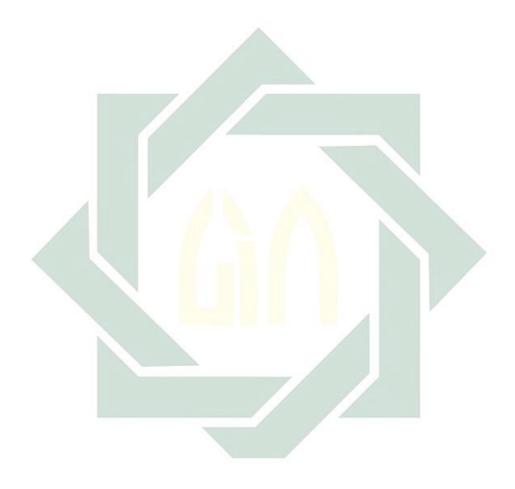
After analyzing the data, the researcher concludes the analysis based on the research problems. For the first conclusion of the analysis, George Milton is characterized as a kind, brave, and dodgy person. As a kind person, George Milton shows his habit that always helps anyone who needs aid. They are Lennie Small and Old Candy who has helped by George. And then, George is a brave person. He looks to be a brave one when he involved in the other one's problem to help them. George is also a dodgy person. Every George's problem and his friends are solved, such as making himself and Lennie have a job.

For the second conclusion, George proves himself as an existentialist one. It is shown when George flees from Wedd, keeps staying on the new ranch, plans to buy the new house, and keeps Lennie staying on a ranch. George is also responsible for his choices by looking for a new job, saving Lennie from Curley, planning to look for another job, and showing a safe place to Lennie. For the last conclusion, those all the findings describe George's essence as a humanist one.

4.2 Suggestion

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher suggests that John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* needs more research to increase scientific discourse. The next researcher can analyze not only the existential side of the

main character but also the other character. The next researcher also can use another theory of existentialism such as Friedrich Nietzsche, Soren Kierkegaard, and Martin Heidegger.



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