

**JANUARY'S JOURNEY IN SEARCHING FOR LIFE'S
MEANING IN HARROW'S *THE TEN THOUSAND
DOORS OF JANUARY*
THESIS**



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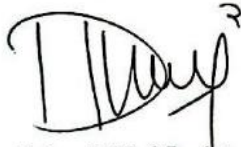
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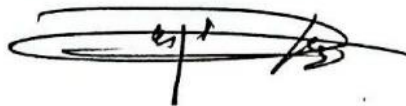
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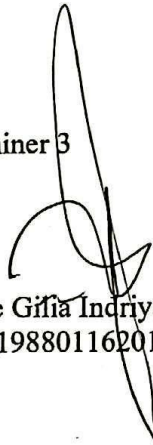
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ABSTRACT

Sa'idah, W. M. (2025). *January's Journey in Searching for Life's Meaning in Harrow's The Ten Thousand Doors of January*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A., (II) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.

This study examines the main character's reasons for searching for meaning in life in Alix E. Harrow's *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*. January is viewed as a biracial girl with a distinct appearance from society. She is also isolated and marginalized by people and her foster father's community, which makes her live in meaninglessness. This study also focuses on her ways of pursuing a valuable life. Align with it, two research questions were formulated to analyze the main character, January's search for meaning: (1) Why does January search for meaning in life? (2) How does January search for meaning in her life?

This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach to analyze the narrative and dialogue in *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*. The data were collected by reading the novel to determine the issue, noting the relevant phrases, clauses, and sentences, and classifying according to January's search for meaning. Then, the collected data were analyzed using Sartre's existentialism to find out January's reasons and ways of searching for meaning in life.

This study finds that January searches for meaning in life because of her experiences while staying in Locke's house. The first reason is loneliness because January has no friends or parents. The second is a restraint from Locke, who restricts January's activities and social life. The third is January's self-identity crisis of her racial group and her true family. January uses three ways to fulfill her search for life's meaning: making friends with Bad, Samuel, and Jane. Moreover, January also gets her meaning of life by bravely deciding to escape from the asylum, make the journey in searching the door alone, and fight against Ilvane and Locke's manipulation. Lastly, January attains the meaning of her life by finding her new identity through reopening many doors.

Keywords: meaning in life, identity, journey, loneliness

ABSTRAK

Sa'idah, W. M. 2015. *Perjalanan January dalam Pencarian Makna Hidup dalam The Ten Thousand Doors of January Karya Harrow*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A., (II) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji pencarian makna hidup tokoh utama dalam novel *The Ten Thousand Doors of January* karya Alix E. Harrow. January yang dilihat sebagai gadis perempuan birasial dengan penampilan sangat berbeda dengan masyarakat di sekitarnya. Ia juga diisolasi dan dimarginalisasi oleh masyarakat dan komunitas ayah angkatnya yang membuat dirinya hidup dalam ketidakberartian. Selaras dengan hal tersebut dua pertanyaan penelitian dirumuskan untuk menganalisis pencarian makna hidup tokoh utama, yaitu: (1) mengapa January mencari makna hidup? (2) bagaimana cara January mencari makna hidup?

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisis narasi dan dialog dalam novel *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*. Data dikumpulkan dengan cara membaca novel untuk menentukan pokok bahasan, mencatat frasa, klausa serta kalimat yang relevan, dan mengelompokkan berdasarkan pencarian makna hidup January. Kemudian, data yang terkumpul dianalisis menggunakan teori eksistensialisme Sartre untuk menemukan jawaban atas alasan dan cara January dalam mencari makna hidupnya.

Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa January mencari makna hidup karena pengalamannya selama tinggal di rumah Locke. Pertama, kesepian karena January tidak memiliki teman atau orang tua. Kedua, pengekangan yang dilakukan oleh Locke yang membatasi aktivitas dan kehidupan sosial January. Ketiga, krisis identitas diri January sebagai kelompok ras dan keluarga kandungnya. Adapun tiga cara yang January gunakan untuk memenuhi pencarian makna hidupnya, yaitu melalui menjalin hubungan pertemanan dengan Bad, Samuel, dan Jane. Selain itu, January juga mendapatkan makna hidupnya melalui berani mengambil keputusan untuk kabur dari rumah sakit jiwa, melakukan perjalanan mencari pintu sendirian, melawan Ilvane dan menentang manipulasi Locke. Terakhir, January mendapatkan makna hidupnya dengan menemukan identitas barunya melalui banyak pintu yang dibuka kembali.

Kata Kunci: makna hidup, identitas, perjalanan, kesepian

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