

**EXPLORING AMBIGUITY AND SYMBOLISM OF CHOICES
IN LIFE IN ROBERT FROST'S 'THE ROAD NOT TAKEN': A
NEW CRITICISM STUDY**



A Research Paper (S-1)

Submitted in a Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for an Undergraduate Degree (SS) in
English Language and Literature by

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20.03.52.0038

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LAW AND LANGUAGE
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2024

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The research paper entitled "Exploring Ambiguity and Symbolism of Choices in Life in Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken': A New Criticism Study" has to the best my knowledge, met the necessary requirements for further examination and approval by the Board of Examiners, FHB University of Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang.

Semarang, January 31, 2024

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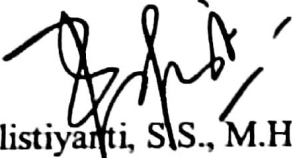
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SAKSI 2

Tim Penguji

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SAKSI 3

Tim Penguji

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DECLARATION

I, herewith, certify that this Final Project entitled “**Exploring Ambiguity and Symbolism of Choices in Life in Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken': A New Criticism Study**” is my work and has never been submitted for any degree award elsewhere. Ideas, findings, and works of others cited here in have been fully credited and acknowledged in compliance with the tradition of academic writing.

Semarang, January 31, 2024

The Researcher



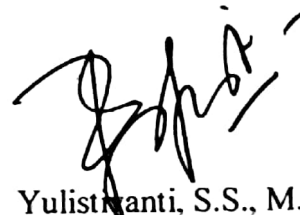
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SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL

This is to certify that a Research Paper entitled **“Exploring Ambiguity and Symbolism of Choices in Life in Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken': A New Criticism Study”** has met the necessary requirements for further examination and approval by the Board of Examiners, FHB University of Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang.

Semarang, January 31, 2024

Supervisor



Yulistiyanti, S.S., M. Hum

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PAGE OF MOTTO AND DEDICATION

pan dao su su, pan dao su tay, pan dao wae lay su tay su su

- Khru Tian, 1000 stars -

Dedicated to

Myself

ABSTRACT

Febriyantasari, Devinda Aralia. 2024. *Exploring Ambiguity and Symbolism of Choices in Life in Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken': A New Criticism Study*. A Research Paper, Faculty of Law and Language. University of Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Supervisor: Yulistiyanti, S.S, M.Hum.

The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost is one of a famous and widely studied poem which contains several ambiguous elements that led to multiple interpretations of the poem. This study attempts to find out the theme, figurative languages, ambiguity and symbolism in *The Road Not Taken* by Robert Frost and its contribution to the exploration of themes. This study used text-oriented approach with qualitative data analysis techniques to delve into the textual content. In addition, this study examines Robert Frost *The Road Not Taken* using New Criticism theory by John Crowe Ransom and adopts a close reading methodology. The theme of the poem is choices in life specifically in making decision. Robert Frost uses symbolisms, ambiguities, and figurative languages to portray indecision, confusion, impact, and consideration in building the theme choices in life to make the best decision possible.

Keyword: *New Criticism, Ambiguity, Symbolism, Figurative Language, Theme*

ABSTRAK

Febriyantasari, Devinda Aralia. 2024. *Exploring Ambiguity and Symbolism of Choices in Life in Robert Frost's 'The Road Not Taken': A New Criticism Study*. Tugas Akhir Pemenuhan Sebagai Persyaratan Pemberian Gelar Program Sarjana Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Hukum dan Bahasa Universitas Stikubank (UNISBANK) Semarang. Pembimbing: Yulistiyanti, S.S, M.Hum.

The Road Not Taken karya Robert Frost merupakan salah satu puisi yang terkenal dan banyak dipelajari. Puisi ini mengandung beberapa elemen ambigu yang menimbulkan berbagai macam interpretasi terhadap puisi tersebut. Penelitian ini mencoba untuk mengetahui tema, bahasa kiasan, ambiguitas, dan simbolisme terhadap eksplorasi tema dalam puisi *The Road Not Taken* karya Robert Frost. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan berorientasi pada teks dengan teknik analisis data kualitatif untuk menggali konten tekstual. Selain itu, penelitian ini mengkaji puisi *The Road Not Taken* karya Robert Frost dengan menggunakan teori *New Criticism* oleh John Crowe Ransom dan menggunakan metodologi pembacaan cermat. Tema dari puisi ini adalah pilihan dalam hidup, khususnya dalam mengambil keputusan. Robert Frost menggunakan simbolisme, ambiguitas, dan bahasa kiasan untuk menggambarkan keraguan, kebingungan, dampak, dan pertimbangan dalam membangun tema pilihan dalam hidup

Kata kunci: *New Criticism*, Ambiguitas, Simbolisme, Bahasa Kiasan, Tema

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Hopefully this research paper can be useful and helpful especially for students of English Literature Department and also the broader society. The researcher realizes that this research paper is far from being perfect so positive feedback will be needed.

Semarang, January 31, 2024

Devinda Aralia Febriyantasari

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