

**BILLY PILGRIM'S PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA IN KURT
VONNEGUT'S *SLAUGHTERHOUSE-FIVE***

A THESIS

Presented in a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Completing the Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature



By :

YOHANIS MESANG

1611800016

**FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA
UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA
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This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of YOHANIS MESANG entitled "BILLY PILGRIM'S PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA IN KURT VONNEGUT'S *SLAUGHTERHOUSE-FIVE*" has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee

Surabaya, 19th July 2022

Advisor,



Dra. Anik Cahyaning Rahayu, M.Pd.

APPROVAL SHEET II

This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of YOHANIS MESANG entitled "BILLY PILGRIM'S PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA IN KURT VONNEGUT'S *SLAUGHTERHOUSE-FIVE*" has been examined and approved by the thesis Examining Committee as the requirement for Sarjana Degree in English Literature

Surabaya, 19th July 2022

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ABSTRACT

The thesis is about Billy's psychological trauma in Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*. The objective of the research is to explain about the symptoms of trauma experienced by Billy, the triggers of Billy's trauma, and ways of Billy's dealing with his trauma. The analysis uses literary theory of trauma by Cathy Caruth. Because trauma relates to psychology, the psychological approach is used in this research. The findings show that symptoms experienced by Billy are recurrent uncontrollable memories of past traumatic events, losing his enthusiasm for life, delusive about Tralfamadorian planet as well as his adventure in time, and sleep disturbance followed by weeping for no reason. The causes of Billy's trauma are the result of his participation in world war 2 where he witnesses many horrific events like the bombing event in Dresden city, and getting humiliation as well as harsh treatment from his fellow soldiers, fellow prisoners, and German soldiers. The other causes is facing the events after the 2nd world war that exacerbates his trauma that is the plane crash he is travelling in and the death of his wife due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Way of Billy's dealing with his trauma is the indirect way in his unconscious state which relates to his delusif Tralfamadorian planet and traveling in time. Tralfamadorian planet is simply Billy's imaginary place which is quiet and peaceful and his traveling in time that he believes.

Keywords: Trauma, trauma symptoms, trauma triggers