

**TOTALITARIANISM IN YOKO OGAWA'S  
*THE MEMORY POLICE***

**Thesis**

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



**BY  
LINTANG CAHYANINGTYAS  
1611900065**

**FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA  
UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA  
2024**

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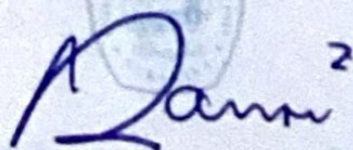
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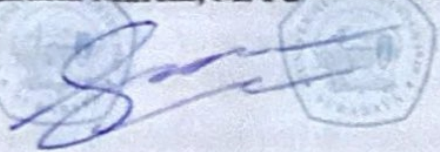
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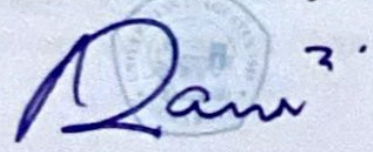
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## ABSTRACT

This study discusses about totalitarianism in Yoko Ogawa's *The Memory Police*. There are four questions to be answered in this research: the depiction of totalitarianism in the novel, the cause and effects of totalitarianism in the novel, and the characters' resistance to totalitarianism in the novel. The objective of the study is to find the reflection of totalitarianism on islanders, the depicted cause of totalitarianism, the depicted effects of totalitarianism, and the characters' resistance to totalitarianism. In analyzing the problem, the writer applies a descriptive qualitative method with sociological approach. The analysis shows the forms of totalitarianism found are terror, absolute control, surveillance, and monopolizing information. The cause of Memory Police's totalitarianism is the desire of Memory Police. The effects of totalitarianism found are loss of trust, intolerance, loss of identity, fear and anxiety, loneliness and isolation, emptiness, trauma, and depression. Most of the people calmly accept the reality of the loss of memories, but some fight back. The characters' resistance to totalitarianism found are forming groups, escaping, and making a hiding place. The writer concludes that the Memory Police as a totalitarian government body uses their repressive power to impose forgetfulness and create an oppressive atmosphere. Because of their repressive power, there are many negative effects on the islanders.

**Keywords:** *totalitarianism, cause and effect of totalitarianism, resistance*