

MAGICAL REALISM IN GARETH BROWN'S *THE BOOK OF DOORS*

A THESIS

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



By
YULIA EKA PUTRI
1612100066

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

2025

MAGICAL REALISM IN GARETH BROWN'S *THE BOOK OF DOORS*

A THESIS

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



By

YULIA EKA PUTRI

1612100066

FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA

UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA

2025

APPROVAL SHEET I

This certify that the Sarjana Thesis of **YULIA EKA PUTRI** entitled **MAGICAL REALISM IN GARETH BROWN'S *THE BOOK OF DOORS*** has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee.

Surabaya, 24 June 2025

Advisor,



Dra. Anik Cahyaning Rahayu, M.Pd.

APPROVAL SHEET II

This certify that the Sarjana Thesis of **YULIA EKA PUTRI** entitled **MAGICAL REALISM IN GARETH BROWN'S *THE BOOK OF DOORS*** has been examined and approved by Thesis Examining Committee as the requirement for Sarjana Degree in English Literature.

Surabaya, 10 July 2025
Thesis Examining Committee



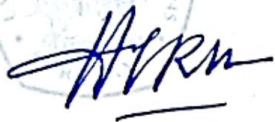
Drs. Danu Wahyono, M.Hum

Chairperson



Ambar Andayani, S.S., M.Pd

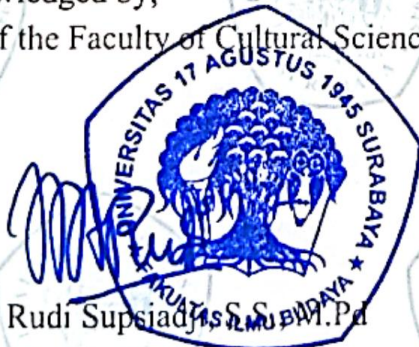
Secretary



Dra. Anik Cahyaning Rahayu M.Pd.

Member

Acknowledged by,
Dean of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences



Mateus Rudi Supsiady, S.S., M.Pd

SURAT PERNYATAAN

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Yulia Eka Putri
NBI : 1612100066
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa skripsi saya dengan judul

MAGICAL REALISM IN GARETH BROWN'S *THE BOOK OF DOORS*

belum pernah diajukan untuk memperoleh gelar sarjana atau gelar akademis lainnya di suatu perguruan tinggi, dan sepanjang pengetahuan saya juga tidak mengadung karya atau pendapat yang pernah ditulis atau diterbitkan oleh orang lain, kecuali yang secara tertulis diacu dan disebutkan dalam daftar pustaka.

Bila mana dikemudian hari ditemukan ketidaksesuaian dengan pernyataan ini, maka saya bersedia dituntut dan diproses sesuai dengan ketentuan yang berlaku.

Demikian pernyataan ini dibuat dengan sesungguhnya dan dengan sebenar-benarnya.

Surabaya, 24 Juni 2025



Yulia Eka Putri



UNIVERSITAS
17 AGUSTUS 1945
SURABAYA

BADAN PERPUSTAKAAN
Jl. SEMOLOWARU 45 SURABAYA
TELP. 031 593 1800 (Ext. 311)
e-mail : perpus@untag-sby.ac.id

LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

Sebagai Civitas Akademik Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya, saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Yulia Eka Putri
NBI/ NPM : 1612100066
Fakultas : Ilmu Budaya
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jenis Karya : Skripsi/ Tesis/ Disertasi/ Laporan Penelitian/Praktek*

Demi perkembangan ilmu pengetahuan, saya menyetujui untuk memberikan kepada Badan Perpustakaan Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya **Hak Bebas Royalti Noneksklusif (Nonexclusive Royalty-Free Right)**, atas karya saya yang berjudul:

Magical Realism in Gareth Brown's "The Book of Doors"

Dengan **Hak Bebas Royalti Noneksklusif (Nonexclusive Royalty - Free Right)**, Badan Perpustakaan Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya berhak menyimpan, mengalihkan media atau memformatkan, mengolah dalam bentuk pangkalan data (database), merawat, mempublikasikan karya ilmiah saya selama tetap tercantum

Dibuat di : Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya
Pada tanggal : 22 Juli 2025

Yang Menyatakan,

(.....)  (.....)

Yulia Eka Putri

*Coret yang tidak perlu

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who have supported me throughout the process of writing this thesis. Above all, I am grateful to Allah SWT for His never-ending grace and guidance that allowed me to reach this point. Without His blessings, I wouldn't be able to start and finish this thesis entitled *Magical Realism in Gareth Brown's The Book of Doors*. I thank Allah SWT for surrounding me with people who continuously motivate me, even during my lowest moments.

Second, I would like to thank my thesis advisor, Dra. Anik Cahyaning Rahayu, M.Pd. Words alone cannot express how thankful I am to her. Her patience, encouragement, and insightful feedback have helped me refine my ideas and improve the quality of this thesis. I am truly grateful and sincerely appreciate for the time and energy she has devoted to correct my work, as well as for her understanding and kindness.

Third, I want to express my thanks to all of the lecturers and staff of the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya. All of these years, they have helped me and provided me with knowledges which makes me able to get through college days. Without their assistance, I could not have progressed to this point.

Fourth, to my beloved family, especially my mother, Indah, and my father, Nadi who always support me. Their encouragement and prayers have been my source of strength to finish this study. No words can truly express how I am grateful for their patience, effort, and unconditional love dedicated to me. I would also like to thank my brothers who keep checking up on me to express their support.

For all my friends, especially Annisya, Mesy, Nadia, Shabrina, Yolanda, and other friends in English Literature Department, sincere appreciation is extended to them who always offer their time, for cheering me up when I feel overwhelmed, and for reminding me to rest when I pushed myself too hard. I would also thank all my friends under the guidance of Mam Anik; Arninta, Fransisca, Hadif, and Luthfia who always support and have each other's back. Without them, I feel like I wouldn't be able to attend advisory session diligently.

And last, I would like to add gratitude to my fictional comfort characters. To Bennoit, Caelus, Emilie, Freminet, Jane Doe, and Misha whose presence, stories, and words have always made me at ease, to tell me that everything is going to be okay and not to overthink too much in the middle of working on this thesis. Also thanks to my favorite musicians who keep making amazing songs; Centimillimental, Eve, halyosy, Isekaijoucho, Kikunoyu, Loluet, Mili, Naniwa danshi, Riproducer, Shazna,

Versailles, and 9Lana. Their works have always been inspiring and helping me to find motivation in working on this thesis.

Surabaya, 24 June 2025

Yulia Eka Putri

TABLE OF CONTENT

APPROVAL SHEET I.....	i
APPROVAL SHEET II.....	ii
SURAT PERNYATAAN	iii
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENT	vii
ABSTRACT	ix
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	2
1.3 Objective of the Study	2
1.4 Scope and Limitation	2
1.5 Significance of the Study	3
1.6 Organization of the Study	3
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	5
2.1 Previous Study	5
2.2 Theoretical Review	6
2.2.1 Magical Realism.....	6
2.2.2 Irreducible Element	7
2.2.3 Phenomenal World	7
2.2.4 Unsettling Doubt	8
2.2.5 Merging Realm.....	8
2.2.6 Disruption of Space, Time, and Identity.....	9
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	11
3.1 Literary Approach.....	11
3.2 Research Design	11
3.3 Data Source.....	11
3.4 Data Collection Procedure	11
3.5 Data Analysis Procedure.....	12

CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS.....	13
4. Elements of Magical Realism in the Novel	13
4.1 Irreducible Element.....	13
4.2 Phenomenal World	18
4.3 Unsettling Doubt.....	23
4.4 Merging Realms.....	28
4.5 Disruption of Space, Time, and Identity	29
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION	37
REFERENCES.....	39
APPENDIX I.....	
APPENDIX II.....	

ABSTRACT

This study discusses the presence of magical realism elements in Gareth Brown's *The Book of Doors*. This study aims to analyze the use of magical realism by identifying the five primary characteristics of magical realism. The objective of this study is to find and explain the elements of magical realism including irreducible element, phenomenal world, unsettling doubt, merging realm, and disruption of time, space, and identity within the novel's plot, characters, and setting. In answering the problem of the statement, this study uses new criticism literary approach and Wendy B. Faris' theory of magical realism. This study uses descriptive qualitative as the research design, focusing on textual analysis by interpreting specific quotations. The novel, *The Book of Doors* by Gareth Brown serves as the data source for this study. The result shows that all five elements of magic realism can be found in the novel. The irreducible element can be found throughout the story with the existence of magical books, primarily the Book of Doors and the Book of Shadows. The phenomenal world is proven with how familiar the settings and the activity in the story that resembles the real world, for example, the social gap between Cassie and her employer. Unsettling doubt appears as characters and readers question the boundary between reality and magic. Merging realm is shown through the natural coexistence of the ordinary world and the shadow realm. Lastly, disruption of space, time, and identity is reflected in the ability of the Book of Doors that allows characters to travel between space and time.

Keywords: *identity, magical book, magical realism, responsibility*