

ABSTRACT

In Absalom, Absalom!, one of his masterpiece, Faulkner describes the father and sons' relationship in the South. The thesis writer believes that the father and sons' relationship in the novel is unique since it reflects the cultural and social condition in the South in **1820s** until **1920s**, such as the problems of Southern racial prejudice and Southern male domination in the family. In this thesis, the writer wants to know how Thomas Sutpen's ambition to build a white aristocracy family causes his conflicts with his two sons, Charles Bon and Henry Sutpen. In addition, she is also curious to know how the father and sons inharmonious relationship finally leads the two sons to their deaths. In doing this analysis she uses some literary criticisms and theories and also the social and historical background which are dealing with the fathers and sons' relationship in the Southern tradition. She also applies two literary devices, those are characterization and conflict as the tools to analyze the novel. The writer analyzes shows that Thomas Sutpen's ambition to build a white aristocratic family causes his conflicts with Charles Bon, his first "**1/16** Negro blood" son who he has neglected since his birth and Henry Sutpen, his second son who he hopes to be his successor. She also finds out that Thomas Sutpen's past and experience greatly influence his relationship with Charles Bon and **Henry** Sutpen. Finally, the thesis writer concludes that Thomas Sutpen's ambition finally leads his two sons to their deaths.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	1
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
CHAPTER I: Introduction	
1.1 Background of the Study	
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Purpose of the Study	6
1.4 Importance of the Study.....	7
1.5 Scope and Limitation.....	8
1.6 Methodology.....	8
1.7 Organization of the Study.....	9
CHAPTER II: Review of Related Literature	10
2.1 The Social and Historical Background of the South	10
2.2 The Role of a Father in the Southern Tradition	13
2.3 Psychological Theory of the Lost of Identity	14
2.4 Literary Theories	16
2.4.1 Characterization.....	16
2.4.2 Conflict.....	18
CHAPTER III: The Reasons of Thomas Sutpen's Ambition to Build an Aristocratic Family that Causes His Conflicts with His Two Sons.....	20

3.1 The Southern Background and Experience that Shape Thomas Sutpen's Characters as a Father	21
3.2 The Conflicts that Charles Bon and Henry Sutpen Have because of Their Inharmonious Relationship with Their Father	27
3.2.1 The Inner Conflicts of Charles Bon	27
3.2.2 The Inner Conflicts of Henry Sutpen	34
3.3 The Effects of the Father and Two Sons' Inharmonious Relationship that Lead the Two Sons to Their Deaths	42
3.3.1 The Effects of Thomas Sutpen's Inharmonious Relationship with Charles Bon that Leads Charles Bon to His Death.....	42
3.3.2 The Effects of Thomas Sutpen's Inharmonious Relationship with Henry Sutpen that Leads Henry Sutpen to His Death.....	45
CHAPTER IV: Conclusion	49
BIBLIOGRAPHY	
SYNOPSIS	
BIOGRAPHY	

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