

**HOW TWITTER THREAD IS USED BY THE AUTHOR OF SHINING  
DISTRACTION ALTERNATIVE UNIVERSE (AU) FOR CREATIVE  
WRITING**

**A RESEARCH PAPER**

Submitted to Fulfil One of Requirements  
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**APPROVAL SHEET**

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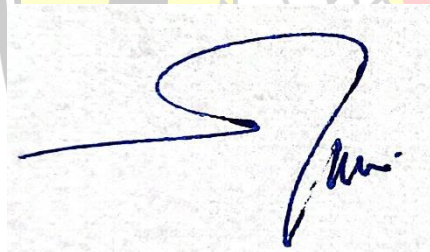
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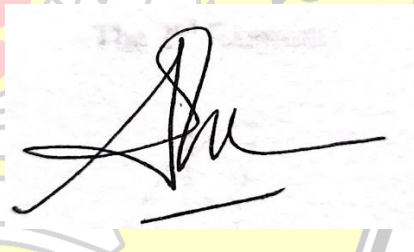
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## LEGALIZATION

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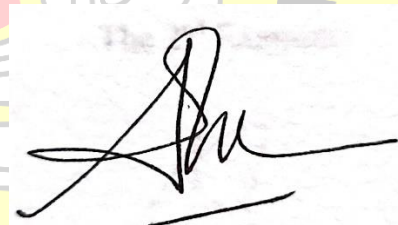
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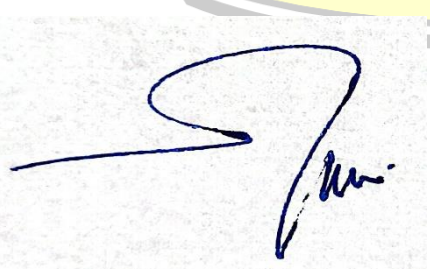
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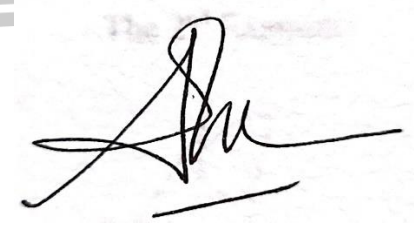
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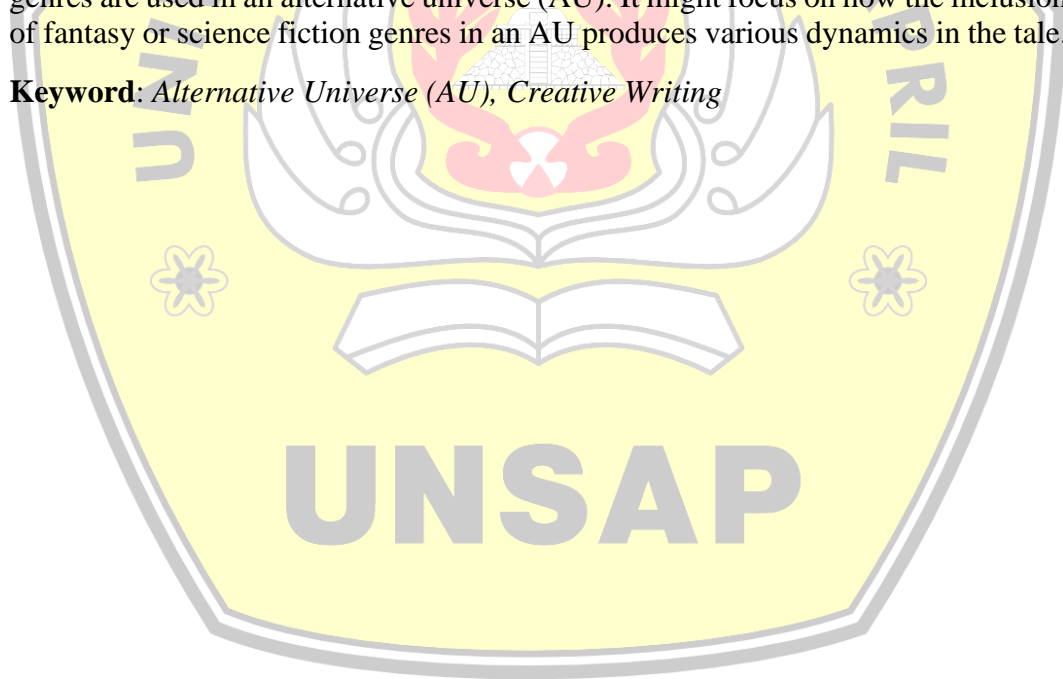


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## ABSTRACT

The title of this research is *How Twitter Thread is Used by The Author of Alternative Universe (AU) for Creative Writing*. The purpose of this research is to find out the basic element and the basic literary practices of creative writing in Alternative Universe (AU). The data source in this research are the Shining Distraction Alternative Universe (AU) and the interview result with the author of Shining Distraction. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative method which is categorized as a phenomenological approach. The grand theory used in this research is creative writing theory about the basic elements (Ariestanty, 2021) and basic literary practice (Berry, 1930) of creative writing. The result of this study is that Shining Distraction AU fulfills the six basic elements of creative writing: theme, character, conflict, setting, plot and structure, and resolution. Then, Shining Distraction AU uses two basic literary practices, namely imagination and experience. In this research might lead to recommendations for further research into creative writing or the Alternative Universe. It is advised that future researchers investigate personality transformation and character motivation in the setting of Alternative Universe (AU). The researcher suggests looking at how particular genres are used in an alternative universe (AU). It might focus on how the inclusion of fantasy or science fiction genres in an AU produces various dynamics in the tale.

**Keyword:** *Alternative Universe (AU), Creative Writing*



# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, researcher discusses the background of the research, the scope of the research, the research questions, the aims of the research and the benefit of the research.

### A. Background of the Research

Society in this era, generally teenagers, utilize social media more as an alternative to creative writing and literacy. Most teenagers today stare at a screen for  $\pm 9$  hours a day (Komariyah & Rachmani, 2022). Prawesti (2018) explained that in an all-digital age with rapid technological developments, it could considerably impact various aspects of people's lives. Various tools such as gadgets, laptops, or computers now dominate as devices that every home must own because their technology can facilitate human needs. One of the uses of these tools is to channel one's talent or imagination to be shown to the public via the internet on these sophisticated devices.

In this case, we can conclude for teenagers, gadgets are considered more interesting than books. Many of them play social media such as Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, Wattpad, and others (Syaharani & Mahadian, 2017). Twitter is one of the most popular social media networks used by people in Indonesia. According to the *Statista* report (databboks.katadata.co.id), there were 18.45 million users as of January 2022. Based on We Are Social and Hootsuite reports, Indonesia is ranked fifth just like in 2022, and Twitter users

in Indonesia in 2023 will reach 24 million users. Based on this data's results, Twitter is one of the most popular applications for the current generation.

On Twitter now, many authors are writing fanfiction. Duffet (2013) writes that fan fiction is created by fans inspired by favorite objects for a broader definition. Fanfiction is not always inspired by stories or characters created but can also be inspired by their idols, such as celebrities, artists, athletes, etc. This fan fiction writing has many genres, like fiction in general, but one genre that has much attention is Alternative Universe or AU. This unique genre is a story with a different plot from the original life of the characters.

Anjani (2021) defines Alternative Universe (AU) as a story displayed on Twitter, usually in the form of a thread based on several fan-made characters (fanfiction). The story revolves around the idol and allows fans to participate and engage in the story. Quoted from the internet site wolipop.detik.com, AU or Alternative Universe is a story created by fans with a different dimensional setting than it should be. Sauro (2019) describes AU as a fan fiction story that changes the original elements of the characters included in the story, such as changing their gender, race or ethnicity, occupation, name, and social status. Thus, it can be concluded that this Alternative Universe is a fan-created fictional story set in another parallel, and the storyline is made as natural as possible so that readers get into the storyline. This Alternative Universe contains various genres, from thriller, comedy, romance, fluffy, and horror to light genres of everyday life. In other words, Alternative Universe is a story that has a process

of "reshaping the narrative to reflect better the diversity of perspectives (imagination) and experiences" (Thomas and Stornaiuolo, 2016, p. 314).

The difference between the Alternative Universe on Twitter and a classic novel is that the Alternate Universe writing format is dominated by screenshots containing chats or short messages between characters in the story. For the description of events experienced by the character, usually, the author will write it in a notes format written, like a short story or novel. This is done to help the readers to understand the storyline more easily because the tweet thread is limited in terms of character numbers. Alternative Universe is written in various languages, including Indonesian, English, Tagalog, and others. This research will examine one of the Alternative Universes entitled "*Shining Distraction*" by the @amaranthsch. This Alternative Universe (AU) was chosen because it was liked by 1,421 twitter users and 723 retweets, and the AU was written by one of the Indonesian authors in English.

Previously, there are several studies that are relevant to the topic of this research, but there is no research that examines twitter threads related to the identification of creative writing. In 2022, research conducted by Haryanti, this study aims to determine that twitter thread media can be used to improve short story writing skills for students. In line with that, Aldina in 2022, explored the utilization of twitter by the @Ujunami account as an educational platform for scientific writing. A research by Komariyah and Rachmani (2022) aims to determine the effect of Alternative Universe (AU) in increasing individual reading interest.

Based on the previous research, no one has examined how twitter threads are used for creative writing especially AU. This research tried to investigate how the twitter thread is used by the author of *Shining Distraction* Alternative Universe for creative writing.

### **B. Research Questions**

There are two research questions that will be discussed in this research:

1. How does the author of "*Shining Distraction*" used twitter thread to write the Alternative Universe (AU) according to the basic elements of creative writing?
2. Which basic literary practices the author of "*Shining Distraction*" used to write Alternative Universe (AU)?

### **C. Scope of the Research**

In order that the discussion of this research does not expand too much and get out of the topic discussed, this research should be limited. Generally, this research examines creative writing. Specifically, the social media application Twitter is used as a place for creative writing written by @amaranthsch, the author of "*Shining Distraction*". The theory by Ariestanty (2021), which explains that there are six basic elements of creative writing: theme, character, conflict, setting, plot and structure, and resolution, is used to answer the first research question. Additionally, this research also investigated the basic literary practices the author used to write AU, based on Berry (1930), which includes three basic literary practices: the writer's (1) imagination, (2) experience, and (3) readers.

#### **D. Aims of the Research**

Based on the research questions, this research has several purposes below:

1. To analyze the Alternative Universe (AU) created by the author of Shining Distraction according to the basic elements of creative writing.
2. To elaborate the basic literary practices used by the author of Shining Distraction to write the Alternative Universe (AU).

#### **E. Significance of the Research**

This research has some benefits.

##### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

Theoretically, this research can help students understand material about creative writing, as new knowledge of the creative writing learning process and utilizing twitter thread media. Besides, the research hopefully can be the reference and consideration for future researcher who plan to conduct research on a similar topic.

##### **2. Practical Benefit**

Practically, this research is expected to provide information to the readers about how twitter thread is used by the authors of Alternative Universe (AU) for creative writing.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH**

This chapter presents the methodology in conducting the research. It consists of research design, research object, research site, data collection technique, data analysis, and data validity. Each of them is elaborated in the following sections.

#### **A. Research Design**

In this research, researcher uses descriptive qualitative research methods which is catogeries a phenomenological approach. Phenomenological approach research is the research tries to explain or reveal the meaning of concepts or phenomena of experience based on awareness that occurs in several individuals. This research is conducted in a natural situation, thus there are no restrictions in interpreting or understanding the phenomenon being studied (Abdussamad, 2021). This research used primary data, namely data found by the researcher directly from the source to answer research problems in depth and detail. In qualitative research, the main data sources come from words, actions, observations, and documents.

This research is categorized into phenomenological approach, because the characteristics are in line with the characteristics of phenomenological approach. In this research, primary data is document data in the form of posts about the Alternative Universe entitled "Shining Distraction" by @amarantsch on Twitter, and the results of interviews with @amarantsch.

## **B. Research Object**

The object of this research is the Alternative Universe entitled "Shining Distraction", and the author's account name is @amaranthsch. "Shining Distraction" AU has 177 parts/threads. Alternative Universe is written in Twitter threads. Alternative Universe as a fanfiction story changes the original elements of the characters in the story, such as changing gender, race or ethnicity, occupation, name, and social status. The researcher is interested in analyzing the basic elements of creative writing and literary practices of Alternative Universe. It is interesting because Alternative Universe is newform of fanfiction on twitter. Therefore, Alternative Universe, creative writing and literary practices is essential to be analyzed.

## **C. Technique of Data Collection**

The data collection techniques, interview and documentation were used. Data collection will be taken from the "Shining Distraction" Alternative Universe and interview the author. Interview is a meeting of two people to exchange information and ideas through questions and answers so that meaning can be constructed on a particular topic. This research uses semi-structured interviews and this type of interview is included in the in-dept interview category, where the implementation is freer when compared to structured interviews. The purpose of this type of interview is to find problems more openly, where the interviewee is asked for his opinions, and ideas. In conducting interviews, researcher need to listen carefully and record what informants say. The interview has guideline questions, but in the

middle of the conversation, the interviewee answers questions or responds, so additional questions are asked (Abdussamad, 2021). In this study, the interview questions were categorized into three main types of questions, namely about basic literary practices, basic elements and how the authors write the story.

Documentation is a record of events that have passed. Documents can be in the form of writings, pictures, or monumental works of a person. According to Arikunto (2000), the documentation method is looking for data about things or variations in the form of notes, transcripts, books, newspapers, magazines, magazines, inscriptions, minutes, reports, ledgers, and so on. In this study, the researcher's documentation is part of the "Shining Distraction" Alternative Universe and the results of documented conversations with the author (Abdussamad, 2021).

#### **D. Technique of Data Analysis**

The technique of analyzing data used in this research is descriptive qualitative analysis method. According to Abdussamad (2021), data analysis is the process of searching for and systematically compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and documentation by organizing data into categories, breaking it down into units, synthesizing, compiling it into patterns, choosing which ones are important and which will be studied, and making conclusions so that they are easy to understand. Qualitative data analysis is related to data in the form of sentences or words generated from the object of research and related to the phenomena that surround the object of research.

Data analysis has three components, namely: (1) data reduction, (2) data presentation, and (3) drawing conclusion /verification. The three main components contained in qualitative data analysis must be present in qualitative data analysis because the relationship and interrelationship between the three components need to be continuously compared to determine the direction of the content of the conclusions as the final result of the research (Miles & Huberman, 1984).

### 1. Data reduction

The data reduction process is a qualitative data analysis step that aims to sharpen, classify, direct, clarify, and make focus by removing things that are less important and organizing and arranging data in such a way that the data presentation narrative can be appropriately understood and leads to conclusions that can be accounted for. In data reduction stage, this research tried to find valid data so that when the truth of the data obtained are doubtful, they can recheck it with other information from different sources (Nugrahani, 2014).

### 2. Data presentation

Data presentation is a set of information that gives researchers the possibility to draw conclusions and take an action. This data presentation is an assembly of information organization in the form of complete descriptions and narratives, arranged based on the main findings contained in the data reduction, and presented using logical and systematic researcher language thus that it is easy to understand. Data presentation must be well organized. Researcher need to group similar things into categories or groups that show the typology that exists according to the formulation of the problem. Data presentation in qualitative research is generally

presented in the form of a narrative, which is equipped with matrices, images, graphs, networks, charts, tables, schemes, illustrations, and so on thus that the data presented for preparation for analysis appears more precise, more detailed, stable and easy to understand.

This data presentation is arranged systematically, according to the core themes, unusually that it is easy to understand the interaction between its parts in an intact context, not independent of one another. The purpose of presenting this data is to answer research problems through the data analysis process. For this purpose, data presentation needs to be packaged in a systematic form to assist researcher in the analysis process. Through understanding this data presentation, researcher can analyze the data to be able to formulate findings in the study and express the conclusion of the research (Nugrahani, 2014).

The next step was categorized the Alternative Universe entitled "Shining Distraction" based on Ariestanty's basic elements of creative writing. Those are, theme, character, conflict, setting, plot and structure, and resolution.

The tables below are categorization of the data.

Table 3.1 The types of theme in Shining Distraction

No	Part of Shining Distraction	The Types of Themes				
		Physical themes	Organic themes	Social themes	Egoic themes	Devine themes

Table 3.2 The type of characterization in Shining Distraction

No	Characters AU Shining Distraction	Characterization	
		Antagonist	Protagonist

Table 3.3 The types of conflict in Shining Distraction

No	Conflict in the AU Shining Distraction	Types of Conflict		
		Physical conflict	Inner conflict	Social conflict

Table 3.4 The elements of setting

No	Setting part of Shining Distraction	The main elements of setting			Note
		Place	Time	Social	

Table 3.5 The main components of the plot that are also part of the structure

No	Component	Part of Shining Distraction
1.	Exposition	
2.	Conflict	
3.	Rising action	
4.	Climax	

5.	Falling action	
6.	Resolution	

The next step is elaborated the basic literary practices used by the author of "Shining Distraction" based on Berry's (1930). Those are imagination and experience.

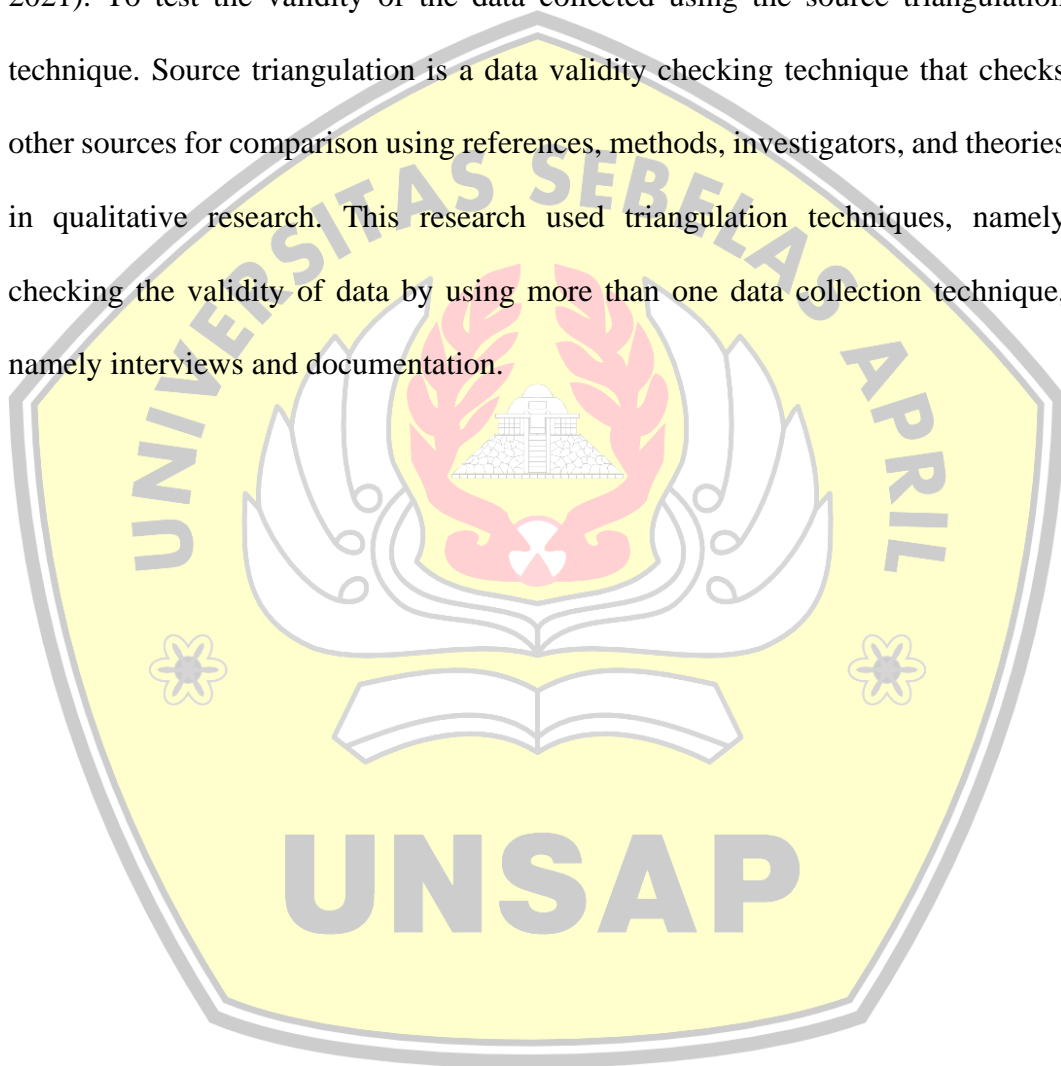
### 3. Conclusion drawing/verification

Meaning is essential in qualitative research. This research must try to find meaning based on data that has been explored thoroughly, completely, and deeply. Concluding is an activity of interpreting the results of data analysis and interpretation. Concluding is just one of the activities in a complete configuration. Conclusions need to be verified during the research to be accountable. The meanings that emerge from the data must constantly be tested for truth and suitability to guarantee their validity. The temporary conclusions can be verified by repeating the research steps, namely by retracing all the research steps that have been carried out, including examining the data collected from the field, the reductions made based on field notes, and the temporary conclusions that have been formulated. The final conclusion should be made briefly, clearly, and straightforwardly so that it is easy to understand (Nugrahani, 2014).

### **E. Technique of Data Validity**

The data validity technique used in this research is the triangulation method. According to Jick (1979), triangulation is a validity procedure where researchers search for convergence among multiple and different sources of information to form

themes or categories in a study. The term comes from military navigation at sea, where sailors are triangulated among different distant points to determine their ship's bearing. Triangulation is defined as a data collection technique that combines various data collection techniques and data sources that already exist (Abdussamad, 2021). To test the validity of the data collected using the source triangulation technique. Source triangulation is a data validity checking technique that checks other sources for comparison using references, methods, investigators, and theories in qualitative research. This research used triangulation techniques, namely checking the validity of data by using more than one data collection technique, namely interviews and documentation.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter elaborates the conclusions and recommendations of the research. This chapter is divided into two parts. The first part is conclusions and the second part recommendation.

#### A. Conclusions

The researcher analysed the basic element of creative writing on twitter thread namely Alternative Universe (AU) and the basic literary practice used by the author of Shining Distraction AU. To answer the research question is divided into two parts:

1. There are six basic elements of creative writing found in Shining Distraction Alternative Universe, theme, character, conflict, setting, plot and structure, and resolution. In this AU "Shining Distraction", four types of themes were found, namely physical themes (4), organic themes (1), social themes (12), and egoic themes (4). There is only one antagonist and six protagonists in the AU. The conflict in this AU is divided into three parts, namely physical conflict (3), inner conflict (17), and social conflict (7). Setting elements can be divided into three main elements: place, time, and social. In Shining Distraction AU, almost all parts contain three setting elements. The plot and structure in this AU are interesting, as most of the storylines are based on the author's past experiences. Based on the results of this study, Alternative Universe is part of creative writing because it fulfills all the basic elements, even though Alternative Universe is written in a twitter thread.

2. The basic literary practices in AU Shining Distraction use two basic practices, namely experience and imagination. However, this AU is largely written based on the experiences of the author of Shining Distraction, @amaranthsch.

### **B. Recommendations**

The findings and discussions in this study can lead to recommendations to explore more aspects of creative writing or Alternative Universe. It is suggested that future researchers go deeper in exploring personality change and character motivation in the context of Alternative Universe (AU). The researcher recommends to examine how the application of certain genres in an Alternative Universe (AU). It could focus on how the use of fantasy or science fiction genres in an AU creates different dynamics in the storyline. For readers, this research still has many shortcomings related to the lack of in-depth discussion in several basic elements of creative writing analysis and basic literary practices. Additionally, it is suggested to every reader to read carefully and not just fixate on this research. This research is useful for people who want to know about creative writing and the Alternative Universe (AU).

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