

**THE SYMBOLISM OF HORROR IN *IN THE TALL GRASS* (2012) BY
STEPHEN KING AND JOE HILL**

A Research Paper

Submitted as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree



Kineisha Zayna Desthyanka

2003455

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE PROGRAM
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Stephen King and Joe Hill**

Oleh
Kineisha Zayna Desthyanka

Sebuah skripsi yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar
Sarjana Sastra pada Fakultas Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra

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**A Research Paper by
Kineisha Zayna Desthyanka
2003455**

**Approved by:
Academic Advisor**



Dr. Rd. Safrina Noorman, M.A.

NIP. 196207291987032003

**Head of English Language and Literature Program
Faculty of Language and Literature Education
Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia**



Prof. Eri Kurniawan, S.Pd., M.A., Ph.D.

NIP. 198111232005011002

ABSTRACT

This study explores into the symbolism of horror in Stephen King and Joe Hill's novella, *In the Tall Grass*, discovering how the authors use ordinary objects to tap into common fears and anxieties. In the novella, fear, faith, and hope are made to construct symbolism. The different types of emotion are embodied in either the tall grass or the black rock. The tall grass symbolizes fear, which arises when the characters are facing danger or uncertainty. While the black rock symbolizes faith that can be deceptive and become false hope. The incorporation of symbols in the novella creates a complex narrative that explores the psychological and emotional states of the characters. The use of ordinary objects as symbols creates the atmosphere and the emotional impact in horror. The study concludes that in *In the Tall Grass*, symbolism is constructed from human basic instincts and ordinary objects, which are the tall grass and black rock. The symbolism of horror is designed to provoke a deep sensation of horror and dread. The characters' experiences serve as a metaphor for the challenges and terrors that humans face in life, making the novella a compelling exploration of the human condition.

Key words: *Horror fiction, symbolism, symbols, human basic instincts, fear, faith, hope, psychological horror, supernatural elements.*

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