

ABSTRACT

Vina Dwi Silvian. 2025. *“The Role of Friendship in Making the Decisions and Actions of the Characters in The Maze Runner Novel”*

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This study aims to analyze friendship in *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner. In this study, the researcher discusses two problems: 1) How is friendship depicted in *The Maze Runner*? and 2) What role does friendship play in making the characters' decisions and actions? Using a qualitative descriptive method, the researcher identifies the portrayal of friendship through quotations from *The Maze Runner*. Using an objective approach and Parker and Asher's (1993) theory of friendship quality, this study analyzed six aspects of friendship: validation and caring, companionship and recreation, help and guidance, intimate exchange, conflict and betrayal, and conflict resolution. The results of this study found that friendship in *The Maze Runner* is portrayed in a complex and diverse manner. Alby's protection to Teresa and Minho's support to Thomas in the aspect of validation and caring. The aspect of companionship and recreation which is realized in the moment of togetherness of Minho and Thomas. Help and guidance found in the cooperation and willingness to protect each other from the characters. Intimate exchange which is seen in Chuck and Teresa's expression of feelings to Thomas. Aspects of conflict and betrayal shown by Gally and Alby, and conflict resolution that Minho and Newt have to keep the relationship strong. Friendship has been shown to have six main roles in making character decisions and actions. These roles are as a confidence builder, emotional and mental support, source of courage, provider of protection and safety, a strong motivator, and lastly helps in finding solutions and defusing conflicts. Friendship in *The Maze Runner* is not just an ordinary relationship, but a source of strength in the face of challenges.

Keywords: action, decision making, friendship, friendship quality theory, *The Maze Runner*

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Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis persahabatan dalam novel The Maze Runner karya James Dashner. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti membahas dua masalah: 1) Bagaimana persahabatan digambarkan dalam The Maze Runner? dan 2) Apa peran persahabatan dalam pengambilan keputusan dan tindakan para karakter? Dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif, peneliti mengidentifikasi gambaran persahabatan melalui kutipan-kutipan dari novel The Maze Runner. Menggunakan pendekatan objektif dan teori kualitas persahabatan Parker dan Asher (1993), penelitian ini menganalisis enam aspek persahabatan: validation and caring, companionship and recreation, help and guidance, intimate exchange, conflict and betrayal, dan conflict resolution. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan bahwa persahabatan dalam novel The Maze Runner digambarkan secara kompleks dan beragam. Perlindungan Alby pada Teresa dan dukungan Minho pada Thomas dalam aspek validation and caring. Aspek companionship and recreation yang terwujud pada momen kebersamaan Minho dan Thomas. Help and guidance yang ditemukan dalam kerjasama dan kesediaan saling melindungi dari para karakter. Intimate exchange yang terlihat dari pengungkapan perasaan Chuck dan Teresa kepada Thomas. Aspek conflict and betrayal yang ditunjukkan Gally dan Alby, serta conflict resolution yang dimiliki Minho dan Newt untuk menjaga hubungan tetap kuat. Persahabatan terbukti memiliki enam peran utama dalam pengambilan keputusan dan tindakan karakter. Peran tersebut adalah sebagai pembangun rasa percaya diri, pemberi dukungan emosional dan mental, sebagai sumber keberanian, pemberi perlindungan dan keamanan, sebagai motivator yang kuat, serta membantu dalam mencari solusi dan meredakan konflik. Persahabatan dalam The Maze Runner bukan hanya hubungan biasa, tetapi menjadi sumber kekuatan dalam menghadapi tantangan.

Kata kunci: *pengambilan keputusan, persahabatan, tindakan, teori kualitas persahabatan, The Maze Runner*