

## THE HYPERREALITY OF THE CHARACTER KATRINA IN THE NOVEL “ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE” BASED ON JEAN BAUDRILLARD PERSPECTIVE

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**Abstract:** This research discusses and exposes the fantasy images in the novel “All You Need is Love,” which will be revealed using Jean Baudrillard's Postmodernism theory. This novel is a young adult genre that discusses the problems of love, family, and fantasy that are made to seem real. Fantasy is a part of hyperreality that occurs because of simulation. Hyperreality is part of the discussion of postmodern theory, which discusses the state of society in the postmodern era. Postmodernism is an era in which technological and scientific developments occur. This research is a type of qualitative research that produces data and descriptive analysis. The material object in this study is the novel “All You Need is Love” by Fakhrisina Amalia, published by Gramedia Pustaka in 2015, while the formal object is data in the form of paragraphs. These discourse texts contain hyperreality following Jean Baudrillard's concept of Postmodernism. This study found six hyperreality images: 1. Aiden seems like Prince Charming from a fairy tale, 2. Long distance relationship is bullshit, 3. Brigadoon: Part of heaven that fell to earth, 4. Descendants of the legendary city residents, 5. A Complicated Love, and 6. Without love, there is nothing left to do.

**Keywords:** Fantasy, Hyperreality, Jean Baudrillard, Simulation

### INTRODUCTION

Developments in various fields of science and technology characterize the modern era. Developments in the field of science make people in the modern era more advanced in terms of thinking, culture, and social society. With the development of technology, people know more about the outside world that is far different from the life around them. This technological development is one of the signs of the emergence of Postmodernism. The era of Postmodernism began in the 20th century AD, precisely around the 1960s AD (Bakhdam & Abduh, 2017).

Postmodernism's emergence was caused by modernism's failure to elevate human dignity (Setiawan, 2018). Modernism fails because it does not improve human life but increasingly brings destruction. So, Postmodernism emerged as a correction of modernism to provide new thoughts and solutions for living an increasingly complex life (Setiawan, 2018). The characteristics of Postmodernism are present in the state of society, which emphasizes emotion rather than ratio, sign rather than meaning, play rather than seriousness, possibility rather than certainty, openness rather than concentration, and fiction rather than fact (Hidayat, 2012).

Several figures are often associated with Postmodernism Theory, including Jean-Francois Lyotard, Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, Jean Baudrillard, and Fredrick Jameson (Setiawan, 2018). However, in examining the problems in this article, the researcher uses Jean Baudrillard's Postmodernism Theory because the discussion focuses on simulation and hyperreality in the novel. Jean Baudrillard is a very prolific writer. He often comments on cultural and sociological issues prominent in the contemporary era. These issues include eliminating gender, race, and class differences that mark the transition from modern to postmodern society (Oktavianingtyas, 2021). This

cultural expression of contemporary society is called postmodern culture, which is the cause of Postmodernism (Taufiqurrahman, 2014)

According to Emanuel, Postmodernism is a whole effort to revise the modern paradigm (Emanuel, 2006). In this case, Jean Baudrillard focuses more on his study of Postmodernism in cultural studies. Postmodern culture is capricious, illogical, kaleidoscopic, and hedonistic. Postmodernism encourages emotion rather than logic. Postmodernism diverges from political ideology and causes a loss of faith in God and science (Fitrianti, 2021). Baudrillard sees that the tendency of contemporary society's consumption culture is no longer based on the extent to which the object of consumption is useful and valuable but is more concerned with the signs and symbols given to the object of consumption. Jean Baudrillard calls the contemporary era an era controlled by signs (Taufiqurrahman, 2014)

Baudrillard proposes the principle (sign-value) as a framework for reading the reality of modern society (Oktavianingtyas, 2021). For Baudrillard, contemporary society lives in a simulation characterized by meaninglessness because humans lose their identity. This figure is famous for calling the world of Postmodernism a life of hyperreality (Setiawan, 2018). According to Baudrillard (1981), "When the real is no longer what it is, nostalgia finds its perfect meaning." That is how reality is described as a sign that no longer reflects reality; representation is no longer related to truth; information no longer contains objectivity of knowledge, which means that the world is built by various forms of reality distortion, free play of signs, deviation of meaning, and confusion of meaning (Arisandi, 2019). Hyperreality can be explained as a condition of the death of reality. It means that the position of reality is taken over by non-reality. Absolute reality is finally identified by absolute falsehood (Novan, 2019)

In Jean Baudrillard's theory, several interrelated discussions exist, including simulacra, simulation, and hyperreality. Baudrillard states that simulacra is a reality without referential reference (Oktavianingtyas, 2021). Jean Baudrillard mentions a quote in his book entitled *Simulacra and Simulation* (1981): "The simulacrum is never what hides the truth - it is the truth that hides the fact that there is none. The simulacrum is true." -Ecclesiastes. In the scope of simulacra, it is no longer possible to distinguish between the real and the fictional, the real and the fake, because these things merge and collide into one (Taufiqurrahman, 2014). When simulacra dominated human life, assisted by the development of science and information technology, the era is referred to by Baudrillard as the era of simulation. In this simulation era, reality no longer has an existence. Reality has melted into signs, images, and models that are reproduced (Hidayat, 2012)

Simulation is a pseudo-reality because, in simulation, there is no reference between the sign and reality in the real world. Simulation is a second reality that refers to itself (simulacrum of simulacrum). Simulation has no direct relationship with the world of reality. Language and signs in simulation seem to be the actual reality, but in reality, it is an artificial reality. Simulation creates another reality beyond factual reality (hyperreality). The reality created by the simulation at a certain level will appear (believed) to be authentic. It is more accurate than the actual reality. In this sense, simulation creates a new or somewhat imaginary reality that is considered real (Bahari, 2021)

Today's society prioritizes its imagination. They prefer fantasy life to actual real life. Baudrillard revealed in (Baudrillard, 1983) that most people now enjoy living in a fantasy world that they indirectly create to support their happiness. This kind of situation is called hyperreality by Jean Baudrillard. In (Baudrillard, 1995), Jean Baudrillard explains that a simulation creates hyperreality. Simulation is making something like something real with a specific sign. Meanwhile, hyperreality is a more realistic, beautiful, and truistic simulation than reality. Hyperreality is also considered a representative link between reality and fantasy (Baudrillard, 1983)

The new world of reality describes a metamorphosis experienced by humans, where reality moves towards post-reality in the sense of transcending reality (hyper-reality). Hyper-reality is a condition where the principles of reality transcend themselves in the sense that they are taken over by their substitutes, artificially created with the help of the latest science, technology, and art, which have destroyed conventional assumptions about what is real (Novan, 2019)

Hyperreality creates a condition in which falsity mingles with authenticity; the past mingles with the present; facts are confused with fabrications; signs merge with reality; lies blend with truth. Truth, falsity, authenticity, issue, and reality no longer apply in such a world. Baudrillard accepts the radical

consequences of what he sees as the pervasiveness of 'code' in modern times. This code is related to computerization and digitalization. This code can bypass something real and open up opportunities for the emergence of reality, which Baudrillard calls hyperreality (Rajagukguk, 2020)

Hyperreality has been found today in many lines of life, one of them being in literary works in the form of novels. Therefore, in this study, researchers discussed hyperreality and its parts in the novel "All You Need is Love" because it is considered attractive. The novel tells the story of love, family, and the existence of fantasies that are made as if they were real

Broadly, the book "All You Need is Love" tells the story of a teenager named Katrina Aby, whose heart has not been able to reconcile with her past, Aiden. So, she follows her mother's invitation to her hometown in Scotland. In this country, Katrina, familiarly called Kat, hopes to forget Aiden. In this country, too, there is someone waiting for Kat's presence; she is Grania Ewan, her grandmother, who is familiarly called Grany. Grany has a big secret that Kat does not know yet. Scotland is a country that holds many secrets about Grany's past. A secret that Grania has kept tightly closed, which makes Katrina want to know about it: not only beautiful, but it turns out that Scotland has a love story layered with legends

There are several previous studies on hyperreality. The existing studies look at hyperreality in three aspects. The first is hyperreality in stories containing mirages and mutant images (Novan, 2019 Bahari, 2021). Second, hyperreality in technology has blurred reality and brought people to an artificial reality (Wanodya, 2015 & Rajagukguk, 2020). Third, hyperreality in social media is more concerned with visual meaning than the original reality (Jauhari, 2017 & Siswadi, 2022)

Based on previous research studies, there are several similarities and differences between previous studies and the current research. The similarity is that it discusses the hyperreality experienced by the characters in the novel (Novan, 2019 & Bahari, 2021). The differences are in the objects studied, the form of hyperreality that blurs reality and leads people to an artificial reality (Wanodya, 2015 & Rajagukguk, 2020), and social media that is more concerned with visual meaning than the original reality in research (Jauhari, 2017 & Siswadi, 2022). So, the position of this research aims to analyze the object, namely the novel "All You Need is Love," which criticizes it and becomes a complement to Jean Baudrillard's hyperreality theory

## METHOD

In this study, researchers used qualitative research that produces descriptive data and analysis (Santoso. P, 2015) using Jean Baudrillard's postmodernism theory. The material object is the research field (Faruk, 2017), in this case, the novel "All You Need is Love" by Fakhrisina Amalia, published by Gramedia Pustaka in 2015. At the same time, the formal object of this study is data in the form of paragraphs of discourse texts that contain hyperreality following Jean Baudrillard's concept of Postmodernism

This data analysis technique is used to find empirical data (Faruk, 2017), so the research uses reading, listening, and recording techniques based on Jean Baudrillard's postmodernism theory. After that, the data collected is interpreted based on Jean Baudrillard's hyperreality. After the interpretation is done, conclusions are drawn

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the researcher will present the results regarding the forms of simulation and hyperreality experienced by the main character, Katrina, in the novel "All You Need is Love," along with its analysis. The explanation is as follows

### *Aiden As Prince Charming from Fairy Tales*

Aiden is a man whose full name is Aiden Emir Hassan. He is of Arab descent and inherited Sundanese heritage from his mother. He was the first person Katrina met singing an acoustic version of Westlife's "Don't Get Me Wrong" on Sunday Morning



Katrina felt something rustle in her chest when she looked at Aiden, and she felt that Aiden looked good away from the men she knew before. Katrina thinks that Aiden is the same as Prince Charming in fairy tales because he is handsome and has a caucasian face, beautiful eyes, and a charming smile. The statement is in line with the following quotes

Oh, sudahkah ku katakan kalau Aiden tampan? Kalau belum, sekarang kuberitahu bahwa... *he's damn gorgeous! And my world instantly stuck in his eyes, in his smile, in his everything* (Amalia, 2015: 33)  
 Aku menahan napas. Aiden seolah *prince charming* dari negeri dongeng yang dikutip untuk tersesat ke Yogyakarta (Amalia, 2015: 37)

Oh, have I told you that Aiden is handsome? If not, now I'm telling you )  
 that... he's damn gorgeous! And my world instantly stuck in his eyes, in  
 .(his smile, in his everything  
 I held my breath. Aiden was like a prince charming from a fairy tale who )  
 (.was cursed to get lost in Yogyakarta

The simulation in the quote above occurs because Katrina admires Aiden and always sees the good things in Aiden, such as his good looks. A person's good looks are the main point of attention for everyone. This is primarily the case in today's society, which considers good looks admirable and a benchmark in assessing people's personalities. Good looks here are a sign that someone can be similar to a prince charming in a fairy tale, which means it can bring happiness to enjoy

This simulation of Aiden's prince charming looks becomes a hyperreality because Katrina feels the luckiest person to know and be close to Aiden compared to her friends. It aligns with the definition of hyperreality, where a simulation is more realistic, beautiful, and truisitic than reality (Baudrillard, 1983)

Not everyone is given a handsome face like a prince charming from a fairy tale. We as humans should not force what is not yet in us. That is why we should be grateful for what God has given us and take care of it with all our souls

### ***Long Distance Relationship as Bullshit***

Katrina had a failed long-distance relationship with her ex, Gio. At the end of the school year, when Gio had finished all his exams, he said he was leaving without discussing it with Katrina

It happened again when Katrina was in a relationship with Aiden. Aiden told her that he got a scholarship to study in London. Katrina thought that long-distance relationships were nonsense when Aiden asked her about it. For her, distance is the number one killer in a romantic relationship. It is in line with the following quote

Tapi kemudian yang keluar dari mulutnya adalah pertanyaan yang paling kuhindari seumur hidupku, "Apa yang kamu pikirkan tentang hubungan jarak jauh?". Omong kosong. Itu adalah jawabanku... (Amalia, 2015: 42)  
 Kamu tahulah, jarak itu pembunuh nomor satu dalam hubungan percintaan." Aku "tertawa pelan, berusaha terdengar lucu agar Aiden tidak tahu bahwa aku sedang menertawakan diriku sendiri (Amalia, 2015: 43)

But then what came out of his mouth was the question I had been )  
 avoiding my whole life, "What do you think about long-distance  
 (...relationships?". Nonsense. That was my answer  
 You know, distance is the number one killer in romantic relationships." )  
 I laughed softly, trying to sound funny so Aiden would not know I was  
 .(laughing at myself

In this quote, simulation occurs because Katrina thinks that her love will always fail due to distance. Distance is a sign that a romantic relationship can last longer or not. It has happened a lot in today's society, especially to teenagers who have just had a romantic relationship. They believe that

their relationship will fail because of the distance that separates them without believing in the power of love they have. It aligns with the expression that reality is constructed by presenting "signs," which will then be destroyed and forgotten (Novan, 2019)

This kind of simulation produces a hyperreality that hurts Katrina most when she is in a long-distance relationship. She feels that love is pointless and even nonsense when distance separates her and her lover. Without even trying, Katrina immediately broke off her relationship with Aiden. Nothing is impossible if we have not tried it. Many people's love stories are thriving despite being hindered by great distances

### ***Brigadoon: Part of Heaven Fallen to Earth***

Another simulated image is the paradise-like beauty of Brigadoon. Brigadoon is a unique, legendary city that only appears every 100 years. It is filled with colorful flowers that welcome anyone who comes there. A path of neatly arranged bricks, butterflies, dragonflies, and bees exists. Trees are lined up neatly, with fresh fruits hanging down. Everything inside looked beautiful and pretty, like a painting. Grania told Katrina about this beauty. She called it a piece of heaven that had fallen to earth. This statement is found in the quotation

Kalau surga itu nyata, Grania percaya bahwa ada bagian dari surga yang terlepas dan terjatuh ke bumi. Di sini. Di Brigadoon ini. Seluruhnya (Amalia, 2015: 150)  
Bagaimana tidak? Dia bisa melihat air mengalir bening, danau secercah kristal dengan teratai berkelopak besar dan warna-warni, kupu-kupu beragam jenis yang hinggap dari satu bunga ke bunga lain -- dan tampaknya ada banyak sekali jenis bunga di sini, capung-capung yang muncul-semunyi di antara rumput-rumput di pinggir jalan setapak (Amalia, 2015: 150)

If heaven was real, Grania believed that a part of heaven was detached )  
(and fell to earth. Here. Here in Brigadoon. All of it  
How could she not? She could see clear running water, crystal lakes with )  
large and colorful lotus petals, butterflies of all kinds flitting from flower  
to flower - and there seemed to be so many different kinds of flowers  
(here, dragonflies flitting among the grass by the path

This situation is referred to as simulation because it is under the definition of simulation, which is to make something like something real with specific signs. This simulation occurs when Grania tells Katrina about the state of Brigadoon, which Katrina considers realistic. The beauty of Brigadoon shows that beautiful things are pleasant to look at. Nowadays, many people think that something beautiful has a high price. This beauty becomes a sign likened to a small part of heaven falling to earth. The meaning of this sign is that beauty can bring happiness to anyone who sees it

This kind of simulation makes hyperreality. Hyperreality is also considered a representative link between reality and fantasy (Baudrillard, 1983). In this novel, it exaggerates something that is not real. This hyperreality makes Katrina fascinated. So, she wants to know the realistic form of this place called Brigadoon. She tries to walk through the forest that is often thought to be where the city exists. A beautiful city equated with a part of heaven is absurd. Because, in fact, no matter how beautiful the legendary city is, it is just a city that can be lost and even destroyed at a particular time. Unlike heaven, which God created with its true beauty

### ***Descendant of the Legend City Resident***

Katrina is a daughter born to a mother named Kyla. Kyla is a child born from the womb of a mother named Grania. Kyla resulted from Grania's illicit relationship with a city resident called "The City of Legends." Hearing Granny's story, Katrina was amazed and increasingly realized that she was a descendant of a resident from the city of legends, as the following quotes

"Dan kalian menikah?" tanyaku tak sabar"  
Granny mengangguk. "Ya, tapi tidak ada malam pertama. Cayden seolah tahu aku butuh waktu lebih lama untuk bisa menerimanya. Ketika aku khawatir keluarga kami akan



mempertanyakan kapan kami punya bayi, tiba-tiba saja aku dikejutkan dengan fakta bahwa ". aku hamil  
 .Aku tersekat  
 Granny menatapku tepat di manik mata. Mata birunya seolah ingin menenggelamkanku.  
 ".Benar, itu ibumu, dan seperti yang kau tahu, bukan Cayden ayahnya"  
 Seharusnya aku tak lagi terkejut. Dan di atas segalanya, aku masih merasa takjub  
 .menyadari bahwa aku adalah keturunan dari penduduk kota legenda (Amalia, 2015: 164)

.(And you got married?" I asked impatiently")  
 Granny nodded. "Yes, but there was no first night. Cayden seemed to )  
 know I needed more time to accept it. Just when I was worried our families  
 would question when we were having a baby, I was suddenly shocked by  
 ("the fact that I was pregnant  
 .(I choked up)  
 Granny looked me right in the eye. Her blue eyes seemed to want to )  
 drown me. "That is right; it is your mother, and as you know, not Cayden  
 ("the father  
 I should not have been so surprised. And above all, I still felt amazed to )  
 .(realize that I was the descendant of the townspeople of legend

The quote above shows the simulation because Katrina feels she is a descendant of a resident in the city of legends. She feels amazed and proud to be a descendant of the inhabitants of a city that is very rare and rarely found. This city of legends does not necessarily exist in the real world, but it is believed to exist by Katrina. Nowadays, many people make something that does not exist into something that does. The meaning of this sign is that presenting something that does not exist in .existence is a form of delusion that can bring happiness to those who feel it

Simulations like this become a hyperreality. It aligns with the definition of hyperreality, which creates a condition in which falsity mingles with authenticity; the sign merges with reality. Hyperreality is also considered a representative or link between reality and fantasy. In the quote above, Katrina believes that the city of legends exists and is realistic to the point of recognizing herself as a descendant of the city's inhabitants. The city of legends does not necessarily exist and is only a .fantasy made as if it were real

### ***A Complicated Love***

Katrina has experienced many complicated love stories, even the love stories between her grandmother and the people who once filled her heart. Among these stories are the love story between Katrina and Gio, who broke their love because they could not bear a long-distance relationship, the love story between Grania and Kyle, a legendary city dweller who produced a baby of complicated love, but eventually they had to separate due to differences in residence. So, Katrina thinks love is even :more complicated than long-distance relationships. This statement is in line with the following quotes

Aku menyusuri lorong sambil berpikir, masih sangsi bahwa ada kisah cinta yang sedemikian rumit hingga rasanya sukar dipercaya. Tapi toh terjadi dan benar adanya.  
 .Aku dan Mama adalah buktinya. Ya, hasil dari cinta yang rumit itu (Amalia, 2015: 167)  
 Cinta itu rumit. Bahkan lebih rumit daripada cinta jarak jauh yang membuatku takut .setengah mati (Amalia, 2015: 167)

I walked down the hallway thinking, still skeptical that there was a love )  
 story so complicated that it seemed unbelievable. However, it happened  
 anyway, and it was true. Mama and I are the proof. Yes, the result of that  
 .(complicated love  
 Love is complicated. Even more complicated than the long-distance love )  
 .(that scared me to death

In the quote above, simulation occurs because Katrina always thinks that the love she lives is complicated and makes her life difficult. She feels miserable because she lives with a love that is never

happy. This situation is often experienced by people today, especially young people who always assume their love story will end unhappily. Complicated love is a sign that a person will experience fear when his story does not end happily. They forget that there are still many loves that end happily. The meaning is that a person may not be in love because it is considered complicated and disturbs his life.

Simulations like this create a hyperreality that shows something is more accurate than what is true. This hyperreality makes Katrina always afraid to live a love story. She tries to fall in love with her boyfriend, but fear still comes over her. She forgets that many loves still end happily, even though it is difficult to achieve. The love story between Grania and Granpa, where Granpa always loved her unconditionally even though Grania had betrayed him. The story of Mama and Papa, who ended up living happily and peacefully in the aisle and having a baby, Katrina. Because the truth is that love can live and grow well when we want to keep it.

### ***Without Love, There is Nothing Left to Do***

Katrina has learned a lot from the stories she has been through; one of the most valuable lessons for her is to learn to hold on to love while it lasts. Her love story with Aiden taught her that it is not just being with someone that matters, but love because love will always find a way to be together. Katrina also learned from the complicated love story experienced by Grania and Kyle that there will always be difficulties in loving someone. This statement is in line with the quotes below:

Kyle mengucapkan terima kasih berulang-ulang, memelukku lagi, lalu menyerahkan gulungan kanvas yang di pegang dengan tangan kirinya. Kemarin, lukisan ini kuberikan kepada Grania agar dia tidak pernah lupa dan tahu “bahwa yang terjadi itu nyata. Hari ini, lukisan ini kuberikan padamu, sebagai pengingat bahwa selalu ada kesulitan yang muncul saat mencintai seseorang, dan satu-satunya hal yang harus kita lakukan adalah percaya bahwa cinta saja cukup, bahkan jauh lebih baik”—daripada tidak ada cinta. Sebab, tanpa cinta tak akan ada lagi yang tersisa,” sahutku spontan, teringat kalimat yang pernah Mama —“ucapkan di pesawat saat kami membicarakan Aiden (Amalia, 2015: 220)

Kyle thanked me repeatedly, hugged me again, then handed me the )  
.(canvas scroll held in his left hand  
Yesterday, I gave this painting to Grania so she would never forget and ")  
know what happened was real. Today, I give this painting to you as a  
reminder that difficulties always arise when loving someone, and the  
only thing we have to do is believe that love is enough, even better than  
("-no love. Because, without love  
there will be nothing left," I said spontaneously, remembering Mama's-")  
.(sentence on the plane when we were talking about Aiden

The quotes above show a simulation. It happens because Katrina always thinks that love is everything and that nothing will be left without living love. She felt that things would be empty without love. It is also often the case in today's reality, where people compete for love. They even hesitate to do anything to get love from others without realizing that love can be felt by themselves without depending on others.

This kind of simulation becomes a hyperreality that shows something more authentic than what is true. Hyperreality is a condition where the principles of reality transcend themselves. This hyperreality makes Katrina always think that the love she is experiencing now is very precious and cannot be replaced with something else. Katrina's love story with Aiden shows love is more important than being together. Love can be a source of happiness, so that it can create even more happiness.

### **CONCLUSION**

The research found various forms of simulation that cause hyperreality. It is supported by the young adult genre novel in which there is a discussion of the fantasy world that exaggerates the actual situation. This study also concluded that Jean Baudrillard's hyperreality theory could be used to

examine various types of literary works, both short stories, and novels, provided that the research object contains elements of events that exceed the actual situation

Researchers found several hyperrealities experienced by the main character Katrina in the novel *All You Need is Love*. "This novel contains many aesthetic and easy-to-understand language styles. In it, many signs show the depth of meaning. The meanings expressed in the simulation that cause hyperreality include: 1. Aiden's good looks like a prince charming that causes Katrina's happiness, 2. Long-distance relationships are nonsense that causes fear for those who live it, 3. Brigadoon: A piece of heaven that falls to earth, 4. Descendant of the legendary city resident, 5. A complicated love that causes fear, and 6. Without love, there is nothing left to do

Researchers still need to prepare this article to improve the results. The novel "All You Need is Love" can be studied using several other theories. Therefore, the researcher suggests that future researchers study the novel "All You Need is Love" by Fakhrisina Amalia using psychological theory or literary sociology. Through this study, the researcher also hopes that through analyzing the forms of hyperreality in the novel "All You Need is Love," readers can increase their appreciation of literary works

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