

## **Statement of Authorization**

I hereby certify that this research paper entitled *The Representation of Fascism in Bowden's Novel Assassin's Creed: Unity* is completely my own work. I am fully aware that I have quoted some statements and ideas from sources and they are stated and acknowledged properly in this paper.

Bandung, November 2017

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## ABSTRACT

This research tells about fascism within a novel entitled *Assassin's Creed: Unity*. The novel was written by Oliver Bowden. The writer chooses the novel because the theme of fascism and related research are few in number and the novel itself is a rare object researcher in Indonesia prefer to analyze. The writer thinks that fascism and ideology and how the author deliver it with a spices of fantasy between 2 urban legend organization is interesting. The writer decides to conduct this research to find how the author represent fascism in the novel which isn't supposed to surface before world war I. The writer uses William Ebenstein Theory of 7 Principle element of fascist outlook to answer the problem. Furthermore, the writer uses intrinsic element as data to match Ebenstein's fascism theory to further develop this research. The data of this book which fall into intrinsic elements are plot, characters, and setting. Each of these data can be found within sentences, words, and narration. Later the data are placed and categorized in a table respectively with one or two Ebenstein's fascism outlook to make the data analysis, finding and conclusion easier. Qualitative method is used to described the quotation taken from the novel and categorize them based on Ebenstein's theory in data analysis. Concerning the term and theory of representation, representation only used as a general term. The writer won't delve deeper as far as using it as one main theory for this research, though the full detail of representation theory and term shall be explained in chapter II. The main theory and focus of this research is William Ebenstein fascism theory. The purpose of this research is to show whether fascism is indeed present or not in this novel and how does the author represent fascism in this novel if fascism is present. Furthermore, a sub-title disclosing the writer thought about fascism is present in discussion. The research also provides some insight on how fascism can be called as one of the worst ideology beside anarchism, communism, socialism and those that have some similarity with fascism.

Keywords: Novel, Ideology, Representation, Fascism.

## ***PREFACE***

The writer would like to thank Allah SWT for always blessing his life to do the whole things and works during the lesson until this research paper is finished. This research paper is entitled “The Representation of Fascism in Bowden’s Novel *Assassin’s Creed: Unity*”. This research is written as a partial fulfillment of requirement for taking the *Sarjana* degree.

This paper discusses about fascism within a novel entitled *Assassin’s Creed: Unity*. The writer analyze the element of fascism indicated in this novel and what part does represent fascism in the novel. The Theory of William Ebenstein about 7 principle element of fascist outlook is used to find the answer of this research. Furthermore, the writer hopes this research will be useful for other and further researchers and will give some interests for those who choose the same topic.

However, the writer realizes that this research is not perfect. The writer would be glad to accept every criticism and suggestion. Finally, the writer would like to thank everyone who have helped in finishing this paper.

Bandung, September 16th 2017

The Writer

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## Statement of Consent of Scientific Work Publishing for Academic Purpose

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Thereby the writer makes this statement truthfully.

Bandung, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017

The Writer

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# Chapter I

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background

The prose is a product of mimetic. Novel, poetry, drama script is part of prose, these literary works such as novel prone to reflect the real world as bases to create a fiction. Literature itself is a work with a narrative story dedicated to entertainment or enlightenment since some literary work has moral messages. The value of entertainment and moral messages may vary according to some factors. The biggest factor lies on the author, the extrinsic factor such as the author life, the environment of the author, experience and so on revolving around the author is the key point of how a literary work born. Up to this day, some authors have been through the ages of war or reading history, thus some fiction may have some similarity with them.

The modern fiction literature such as prose nowadays uses real-world/environment reflection as the setting. One reflection the author uses is history. Some author may copy history as setting or retelling the history with a spice of fiction. this, in turn, implies that although the result or course of history is set, either the process or result would have a twist as the stories go on since the authors are 'creator' who can do anything in his/her literary work.

Although the setting is taken from history, a fiction still remains an imaginary story. there are some works branded with based on true story, some portion of these stories may be true for being story taken from real life, but a literary work would never be same without a little magic called fiction. Besides, literary works without fiction may

as well be a soup without salt, its edible but not tasty, the same can be said for literary works whatever the stories the author writes.

An example of this is *Er Ist Wer Da*, a satirical Germany novel about Hitler living in modern day. The book tells the reader about Hitler who survived World War II and by miracle transcend time and space to modern day German. The story revolves around the fascist leader being a comedian whilst secretly trying to rise into power in modern day through TV Propaganda. The story retains original character in history but fiction give it a twist with time traveling. The same also happened in *Assassin's Creed: Unity*.

*Assassin's Creed: Unity* was published in 2014, The title is taken from the game with the same name. The novel portrays Élise de la Serre perspective of the events from the game of the same name and Arno's experiences after the game. The novel tells us the course of French Revolution and conflict between two forces which are Assassin and Templar. The book like how other *Assassin's Creed* books depict major histories and course. The conflict reason is only one that in *Assassin's Creed* there. The Assassins pursues their ideal by 'peace through free will', while the Templar goes by 'peace through control'.

The pursuit of power through different ideal portrayed in this book is the element which intrigued the writer to research the book. Another reason, there is a struggle for power involved here, the civilization of humanity ever since the ancient times are shaped by numerous factor. Power, war, and hegemony are also the factor that shapes our civilization. The writer feels curious whether the struggle and pursuit of power within the book is indeed a fascism, and how can such ideal born?

The twist projection between the reality and the fiction would make this research worth to conduct since the trigger for the revolution induce there is fascism here like quotations below.

**‘They had created their own flag: a “tricolor,” which was everywhere. And if ever there was a symbol of the Assembly’s fast-growing dominance, that was it.’**

(Bowden, 2014: 119)

**‘How far would these revolutionaries go? After all, their cause had been supported by many nobles and members of the other estates, and Mirabeau himself was an aristocrat. But would that mean anything in the upheaval? When it came to revenge, would they Discriminate?’** (Bowden, 2014: 120)

The third reason, the writer had read numerous research paper in numerous universities libraries, surprisingly the writer found that there are less number of literary research about this theme, which in turn making reference for this research is hard to find. Added that some of the books regarding ideology are forbidden to spread.

In order to solve this research, the writer going to use Ebenstein’s seven principal of fascism theory to find out if fascism really exists in this book and how does the author represent fascism if the said ideology is present in this book. Henceforth I chose Assassin’s Creed: Unity by Oliver Bowden as my research object entitled ‘The Representations of Fascism in Bowden’s Novel Assassin’s Creed: Unity’

## 1.2 Identification of the Problem

Literature has many similarities with the real world because literature is a reflection of real world itself. Literature has ideologies like how the real world has, especially literature with power theme. Ideologies from books stem from 2 elements of literature; those are intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are the core of a book because it is the very foundation of a book consisting character, characterization, setting, plot, point of view, theme. While extrinsic elements influence the books indirectly.

There is a research with the same object as the writer but focused on different perspective. The research belongs to R. Adrian Dimas Herwanto from French Department of Brawijaya University, he wrote “Gambaran Tindak kriminalitas, kekerasan dalam Assassin’s Creed: Unity”. Adrian paper focused on explaining and exploring the violence and chaotic ambience of the French revolution. This research, however, is lacking in analyzing what is beyond the conflict in the revolution.

Thus, the writer will focus on analysing the intrinsic elements of the stories such as plot, setting and character with Ebenstein’s seven principal of fascism which are; totalitarianism, distrust of reason, denial of basic human equality, code of behaviour based on lies and violence, government by elite, racialism and imperialism and opposition to intentional law and order. In accordance with that sees how far/similar the author writes his stories with the authentic fascism. The data of this research would be words, sentences, narration, dialogues.

### **1.3 Research Question**

The research problem formulated for this research is:

- How does the author represent fascism in the story?

### **1.4 Objective of the Research**

The objectives of the research adjusted to the research question, thus the objective of this research is to discover the representation of fascism in Assassin's Creed: Unity.

### **1.5 Significance of the Research**

The result of this study is expected to give benefit especially to the writer, reader, researchers and academic institution. Through this study, the writer expected to understand what the author trying to represent or convey in this book. Since the book has a vibe of fascism, the writer intended to find out and understand fascism which supposed to birth in World War 1 but surprisingly surfaced in the 18th century. In addition, this study has 2 major significances:

#### **1. Theoretical Significance**

The result of this study expected to provide knowledge for future research, readers, educational field in institution and further knowledge/research regarding fascism and representation, especially of Bowden's Assassin's Creed: Unity

#### **2. Practical Significance**

The result of this study expected to provide input, knowledge, and reference for future research especially fascism in Indonesia research paper.

## 1.6 Reasons of the Study

The reasons as to why the writer choose this book as the object of study are:

1. The book revisits the history of French Revolution which known as the worst war that has taken a million of lives in mankind history. There are books which told us about the same Revolution with the same causes of why the revolution happen, but this one has its own unique aspect in it which is the war between Templar and Assassin. Both pursue different ideology to guide humanity, the Templar sought to control humanity because they think mankind hasn't changed from barbaric ways so it is up to them to lead humanity in their own ways known as utopia for better life while the Assassin sought to give humanity freedom, a freedom in how they want to live their way without the control or tyranny of Templar.
2. The novel having fantasy vibe present different old-school fantasy ideas which usually have a pattern of the fight between good and evil, while this one isn't. the readers will find it difficult to justify the motive between the protagonist and antagonist, making the novel a thought-provoking story.

The reasons why I took this title as my research are, a proof to complete my study in Pasundan University, to understand more about fascism, to increase the number of fascism research in Indonesia.



## **1.7 Research Methodology**

This research uses the literary approach which serves as a tool in analyzing fascism representation written by the author in the novel, the representation is built from intrinsic elements. The study, of course, will use a qualitative method which is analyzing the relation between words or sentences which produces a handful of meaning in descriptive type.

The data of this research will be taken from the novel, afterward, the writer will underline the intrinsic elements in forms of words, sentences or quotations related to the topic. Then the writer will categorize the mined data into categories which match Ebenstein's principal element of fascism. Finally, the writer uses Stuart Hall theories of representation to analyze what kind of fascism represented by the author in his book.

## Chapter II

# The Representation of Fascism in Bowden's Novel *Assassin's Creed: Unity*

### 2.1 Novel

The term novel according to KBBI online (*Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*) means a prose which told the life stories of someone and his surrounding character and characterization. usually, a novel told a stories or event in a certain time. the language used in novel prone to the daily language used in society. Through this, it can be said that novel definition emphasizes itself as a literary work consisting intrinsic elements to build itself into a story beginning from the introduction, rising action, climax until the denouement.

The object of this research is *Assassin's Creed: Unity* despite an original novel based on the multiplatinum video game, the novel would not force you to play the game to understand the whole story or glossary. Basically its Final Fantasy but not in the world of fantasy. What makes this novel interesting are how the author writes the book which took lot of action and the detail into word and preserves its originality albeit without depending on the game too much for explanation or 'the red string' making the novel as standalone literary works telling another main character which is not exposed too much in game, Elise.

Another plus point for the novel is how much the illustrator put a lot of work on the title page. There is some distinct thing we can interpret just from the title page alone before we read the actual content such as the rubble of building in front of high

seemingly noble houses portraying the environment and status which seemingly take us back to where 12<sup>th</sup> – late 18<sup>th</sup> century of leading bourgeoisie.

The outfits of both main character, which seems to be the reverse of what usually portrayed in classic. Whereas the man becomes the star of the novel and the women being the support behind the scene. The man uses hood while the woman not, the weapon on both characters while the man seems to use it as a hidden weapon from gloves while the women using a frontal weapon to attack such as gun and sword. Based only on 2 facts above it can be interpreted the role of hero and support are reversed.

The position where the women placed in front of the man can be interpreted like what the writer speculates above or it could mean the focus of the novel stories revolves. Lastly, the pose of the two character placed in front of the rubble and high building taking a ready-to-fight stance signified that the story content would be a conflict on a big scale.

## **2.2 Intrinsic Elements**

Intrinsic elements are the foundation novel itself, these elements come in form text making the so-called novel, short stories, fiction or non-fiction into literary works. These elements may come with some sort of idea or representation. According to Nurgiyantoro (2013:23)

‘intrinsic elements are the elements which establish the literary works itself. Elements which causes works become literary works, elements that are factually faced by those who read literary works. for example, conflicts, plot, character, theme, setting, point of view, language etc.’

based on the quotation above, intrinsic elements in the novel are;

a. Plot

Stanton (2007:167) explained, the plot is a story consisting a chronology of events. These events are related to other events making it a loop of cause and effect, one event may trigger an event or another event. The plot can be divided into 5 parts; Introduction, Conflict, Climax, Solution, Denouement.

The main plot of *Assassin's Creed: Unity* follows the generic revenge plot in which the main character is obsessed with the revenge. The story tells us about the revenge of Elise De La Serre to Francois Germain because Germain an Ex Templar to De La Serre family doomed The De La Serre household by killing the whole family except Elise.

While the story focused on Elise's journey toward revenge, Germain the main antagonist and the mastermind of almost all French events have planted ideas and spark French Revolution to achieve his goal which can be called as 'purge' as revealed in Elise Journal.

b. Character

According to Aminudin (2008:140) in Siswanto, Character is an actor who has a particular purpose in fiction which made them the catalyst who built the events and story. Character and characterization have a distinct meaning, a character like what Aminudin said is the actor of a fiction while characterization is the way an author defining a character.

With this characterization, characters in literary work are varied by their traits or characterizations. They are categorized into some roles, generally, there is the main character (Protagonist) and their adversary (Antagonist).

The main character of this novel is Elise De La Serre, a reckless and hot-headed young woman trained to be her father's successor as Templar Grand Master. Several memorable side characters in the novel are:

1. Freddie Weatherall, Elise, and Julie (Elise's Mother) De La Serre Protector while at the same time is Elise's Mentor and Adviser. Wise and cunning, often trying to mend errors in Elise's ways of thinking to rebuild De La Serre Templar reign.
2. Arno Dorian, Orphan, taken by Francois De La Serre (Elise's Father, the French Templar Grand Master) after his own father was killed by Templars. An Assassin descendant of the Dorian family and Elise's lover. Raised in a Templar environment but turned into an Assassin anyway to help Elise rebuild her family Templar.
3. The Main antagonist of this novel is Germain Francois Thomas, an outcast of Templars and also a Sage. Sage in Assassin's Creed books is depicted as a man with knowledge of past lives, there's only 1 Sage in each book; each Sage has the memory of the past Sage.

### c. Setting

Setting are details regarding times, places, and ambient which happen in literary work. Wellek and Warren (1993:149) state that setting is an environment which can be described as metonymic, metaphor, or the expression of a character.

The setting took place in Versailles and Paris, French in 1778 until 1794. in 1788 the story moves to London and shifted back to French at the end of 1788.

### d. Point of view

According to Siswanto (2008:151), point of view can be described as how an author illustrating a character in their story. this means an author has their own place in their work to tells their story, this aspect usually called Narrator. these can be categorized into;

E1. Narrator omniscient

E2. Narrator observer

E3. Narrator observer omniscient

E4. Narrator the third person omniscient

Abrams (1981:231) stated that point of view also ‘signifies the way a story gets told, the mode or modes established by an author means of which the reader is presented with the characters, dialogue, actions, setting, and events which constitute the narrative in a work of fiction.

The point of view in this novel is Third-person omniscient point of view. The reader is portrayed as Arno reading Elise’s journal, while at the latter part the reader also read Arno journal which made the reader know what every character in the novel has to offer.

e. Language

Aminuddin (2008:158-159) in Siswanto stated that language is author ways to express his ideas through a magnificent word, narration and/or sentence. In other word language is another tools at author disposal to make a story interesting, this is because the diction and the ways an author build their stories with language may differentiate how one author and the other write their own work.

### **2.3 The Concept of Representation**

Fiction literary work as a cultural product of particular culture always has one or more certain unique trait on them. One certain uniqueness of these literary works is the meaning behind what lies in them or we called it representation. These representations sometimes represent something resembling reality. To understand what is the meaning behind those, people need to see how it is represented in particular codes.

Stuart Hall (1997:28) explains that:

‘Representation is the product of meaning through language. In representation, constructionist argue, we use signs, organized into languages of different kinds, to communicate meaningfully with others. Language can use signs to symbolize, stand for or reference objects, people and events in the so-called ‘real world’. But they can also reference imaginary things and fantasy worlds or abstract ideas which are not in any obvious sense part of our material world’

In line with the quotation above, the term representation in Cambridge dictionaries pointed that representation contains 2 related meaning with this research, those are;

1. Representation as description or portrayal of someone or something in a particular way; for example, “the relief of Ramayana Purana represent Ravana Kidnapping Shinta”
2. Representation as mental state or concept regarded as corresponding to a thing perceived; for example, “3 rice grain on Balinese forehead represent blessings for good fortune and prosperity”

The relief of Ramayana Purana stands in place of and at the same time stand for a part of Ramayana story where Ravana kidnapping Shinta. Likewise, the 3 grain of rice is simply a part of Balinese custom or a part of ornament; but in Balinese faith, it represents the blessings of good fortune and prosperity.

Thus it can be concluded that representation is a meaningful product in form of concept in our mind through language. This enables us to refer both real-world objects, people, custom fiction or imaginary object as stated by Stuart Hall.

There are 2 processes of representation according to Stuart Hall (1997:23). The first process is a process which sorts out all object, people, and event that is related to an image or concept we have subconsciously in our mind. These image or concept works like a dictionary because if we don't have these there would not be any meaning at all. Moreover, the image or concept are not limited to worldly material or something we can perceive physically, but it also including something abstract in which something we cannot perceive physically.



The second process of representation is constructing a set of matching correspondence between the image or concept within our mind and a set of signs in various language which represent those concepts. The relation between thing we perceive as concept and sign lies in the language, the process of this is the very thing we call 'Representation'.

There are three approaches to explain how representation through language works according to Stuart Hall (1997:24). First, reflective approach, in reflective approach meaning lies in the object, person or idea in the real world and language function like a mirror, to reflect the true meaning of its counterpart in the real world.

Second, intentional approach, the intentional approach in representation argues the opposite case. It holds that it is the speaker, the author, who imposes his or her unique meaning on the world through language, words mean what author intends what they should be conveyed.

Third, constructionist approach to meaning in language. This approach recognizes this public, social character of language. It acknowledges that neither thing in them nor individual users of the language can fix the meaning in language. Things do not mean: we construct meaning using a representational system which is concept and signs. This approach tells us not to confuse the material world, where things and people exist, and the symbolic practices and processes through which representation, meaning, and language operate.

Constructivist do not deny the existence of the material world. However, it is not the material world which conveys meaning; it is the language system or whatever system we are using to represent our concepts. Stuart Hall (1997:25) state it is a social

actor who use the conceptual system to construct meaning, to make and to communicate the world meaningful to other.

The representation theory serves as 'to represent meaning'. Meanings are represented via signifying practices. In signifying practice, signs are assembled according to sets of decodes in order to represent the material concept shared by particular people.

## **2.4 Fascism**

Fascism, in general, is a term for one type of political ideology, the definition of fascist according to Gasset (1926)

“Fascism has an enigmatic countenance because in it appears the most counterpoised contents. It asserts authoritarianism and organizes a rebellion. It fights against contemporary democracy and, on the other hand, does not believe in the restoration of any past rule. It seems to pose itself as the force of a strong State and uses means most conducive to its dissolution as if it were a destructive faction or a secret society. Whichever way we approach fascism we find that it is simultaneously one thing and the contrary, it is A and not A”

The term Fascism was first applied to a political movement of extremist militia in Italy during the regime of Mussolini in 1919. The movement of fascist being extreme and abolish any type of past rule due to whatever the reason is what makes that political movement fascism. Eco (1997:7) writes that

“Fascism became an all-purpose term because one can eliminate from a fascist regime one or more features, and it will still be recognizable as fascist. Take away imperialism from fascism and you still have Franco and Salazar. Take away colonialism and you still have the Balkan fascism of the Ustashes. Add to the Italian fascism a radical anti-capitalism (which never much fascinated Mussolini) and you have Ezra Pound. Add a cult of Celtic mythology and the Grail mysticism (completely alien to official fascism) and you have one of the most respected fascist gurus, Julius Evola.”

Despite all of that, the main idea of fascism stands true as it is an ideology and movement of nationalism and revolutionary. Many people mistaken fascist with anarchism. Anarchism in its regard is also an extremist movement of nationalism, but the difference is located in the goal. Fascist aims a superpower country led by a dictator, while anarchism tends to stick with 'self-govern' rather than having someone to lead them, resulting in the annihilation of leader figure or organization.

In fascism, there is no Fascist manifesto with undisputed authority against fascist but according to William Ebenstein (1967:115-124) there are 7 principals of fascism:

1. Totalitarianism

C.J Friedrich (1965) defined totalitarianism as follows:

- 1.1 A single mass party, led by one man, which forms the hard line of the regime and which is typically superior to or intertwined with the government bureaucracy.

- 1.2 A system of terror by the police and secret police which is directed against real and imagined enemies of the regime

- 1.3 A monopolistic control of the mass media

- 1.4 A near monopoly of weapons

- 1.5 A central control of the economy.

From these point above it is really clear that fascism is totalitarianism as it will use authority and violence in all kind of relation to obtaining its ends.

## 2. Distrust of reason

Distrust of reason in fascism means rejecting rationality as it strives for fanatical psychological state directed to the country resulting in the dogmatic regime and usually has taboo issues which must be accepted on faith and cannot be critically discussed or spat.

## 3. Denial of basic human equality

Fascist country place inequality as their ideal. Fascism rejects this very equality; in a fascist regime, strength is everything this include that men, soldier, a politic party member, one own nation are stronger than their counterpart. According to Griffen (1995:59).

“The fascist affirmation of inequality is based ultimately on strength. This concept just like social Darwinist, which argues that nations and races must purge themselves of socially and biologically weak or degenerate people, while simultaneously promoting the creation of strong people, in order to survive in a world defined by perpetual national and racial conflict”

## 4. Code of behavior based on lies and violence

Fascist code of behavior stresses violence and lies in all human relations, within and between nations. Fascist view politic is characterized by friend-enemy relation. Politic began and ends, in this fascist way of thinking, with the possibility of an enemy. Fascist know the only enemy, not an opponent, and since enemy represents evil incarnate, total annihilation is the only solution. This doctrine applies to domestic as well as foreign enemies.

Fascist violence has 3 aim, first to weaken the opposing party through physical confrontation, to promote an experience of struggle and solidarity among cadres and to project a display of strength and order.

5. Government by elite

Fascists believe that a nation is an organic community whereas a strong leadership, charisma and a singular identity, will be the only way to make the nation strong and united. Fascist nation values the leader like a deity, their leader is like religion which makes this fully reflect irrational nature of fascist. Thus the caste system like in 12<sup>th</sup> century is popular among fascist nation

6. Racialism and imperialism

Racialism and imperialism express the two basic fascist principles. One portraying inequality while the other violence. It can be said that fascism is an aggressive nationalistic ideology based on two principles mentioned above. This nationalism turns them into a fanatic and the leader aspire them to dominate other.

7. Opposition to international law and order.

Opposition to international law and order is the outcome of fascist belief in inequality, violence, racialism, imperialism, and war. The fascist turns away from international organization in which they are expected to abide by majority decision in which government is carried on by the method of discussion rather than by force.

**2.5 Synopsis of *Assassin's Creed: Unity***

The novel told stories about a conflict between 2 organizations which are Templar and Assassin, both organization founded back in times around Holy Grail War in Jerusalem. The two organizations both have their own ideal in which Templar sought peace through control while Assassin sought peace through free will. The two

organization ever since the Holy Grail war have manipulated war of mankind behind the scene, and spread their ideal and organization throughout the world in order to make their ideal becoming reality.

The war brought by 2 organizations currently reach French and it incites bloody French Revolution. Elise De La Serre the daughter of the current Templar Grand Master and the next in line Templar Grand Master and Arno Dorian soon chosen as the next Mentor (highest rank in Assassin) is the main focus of this novel, the story is told through diaries entries from both of them.

Elise De la Serre a noble daughter of French Nobleman found out her life is not the same as the other noble daughter. When the other noble daughter play with their doll, she spent more time with Arno, an orphan child inherited Assassin blood and family name brought by her father to become their ward. The time they spent together, of course, bound them into a deeper relationship. Though not long after, she found herself to be a part of the larger world when her parent decided to tell her what future awaits her as the next Templar Grand Master. Overjoyed with the revelation she started to train in way of Templar with her mom accomplice Mr. Weatherall.

The happiness of De la Serre Family did not last long. Soon after, Elise mom illness made her embrace her death, after the events her father sent her to academy specifically for training her as the next Templar. The repetitive training made Elise question her father intention since the training is not a training to become a fighter or wiser but rather being a lady. Depressed, she left the academy to London hoping to become fully fledged Templar by meeting Mr. Weatherall and completing a mission.

Mr. Weatherall fearing Elise safety and her father wrath accompanied her in her mission, the mission is to get a letter of will from the late Templar Grand Master in a noble house which turns out that the noble is the late Templar Grand Master sister. Completing her mission, Elise rush back to French to report to his father. Her father although happy but still reprimand Elise for being rash.

At some point later in the novel, Elise Father held a great banquet for Templar meeting. The joyous occasion later in the night become a tragedy because Elise Father assassinated, Arno who was strolling around was the first to found the dead bodies but he was accused as the killer. That night also marks the start of French revolution since the event of Fort Bastilles took place in the day after.

Elise Heartbroken from the downfall of the family and the position of Grand Master robbed from her become a rogue Templar seeking to avenge and restores her family good name. She found out later that the killer is someone from the Templar, feeling guilty she searches Arno seeking forgiveness but found out that Arno has become Assassin hoping to found out Elise Father killer to prove his innocence. Both of them driven with same goal work together in the middle of French Revolution.

With the Revolution in full swing, their searches started from a simple revenge twisted into a war of ideology because of conflict involving Templar and Assassin. The searches bear a fruit, they found out that the new Templar Grand Master is the culprit between the assassination and the one started the French Revolution.

Resolving to end French Revolution and taking back her right, Elise together with Arno confront the Templar Grand Master Francois-Thomas Germain, the result, however, Elise is stabbed to death by Germain and Arno kills Germain after. The novel ended with Arno explaining how his understanding of the Creed has changed and promising to watch over Paris and keep Elise's memory alive.

## **2.6 Biography of Oliver Bowden**

Oliver Bowden is the pen-name of Anton Gill was born at 1948 in Ilford, Essex, the only child of an English mother and a German father. Both parents died in 1995. His mother taught English, Russian and Drama and his father was an engineer. His early infancy was spent in Bamberg, Germany. He speaks good French and German, and sketchy Italian and Spanish.

He was educated at Chigwell School, Essex, (1960-1966), where he did a lot of acting and decided that he would go into the theatre. At Clare College, Cambridge, (1967-1970), he did more acting and directing, ending up as President of the CU ADC (Amateur Dramatic Club) and several other drama clubs, as well as running his college's Fine Art Society. He left with a 2:1 in English Literature with French and German subsidiary subjects. BA Hons. 1970; MA Hons. (Cantab.) 1973.

Ever since that, he has been a full-time professional writer since 1984, and in the course of the last 27 years, he has published 35 books. Including the novelizations of several of the Assassin's Creed console games.

Oliver Bowden is a pen-name (a pseudonym adopted by the author) in order to hide his true identity. However, his profession and location are accurate. According to

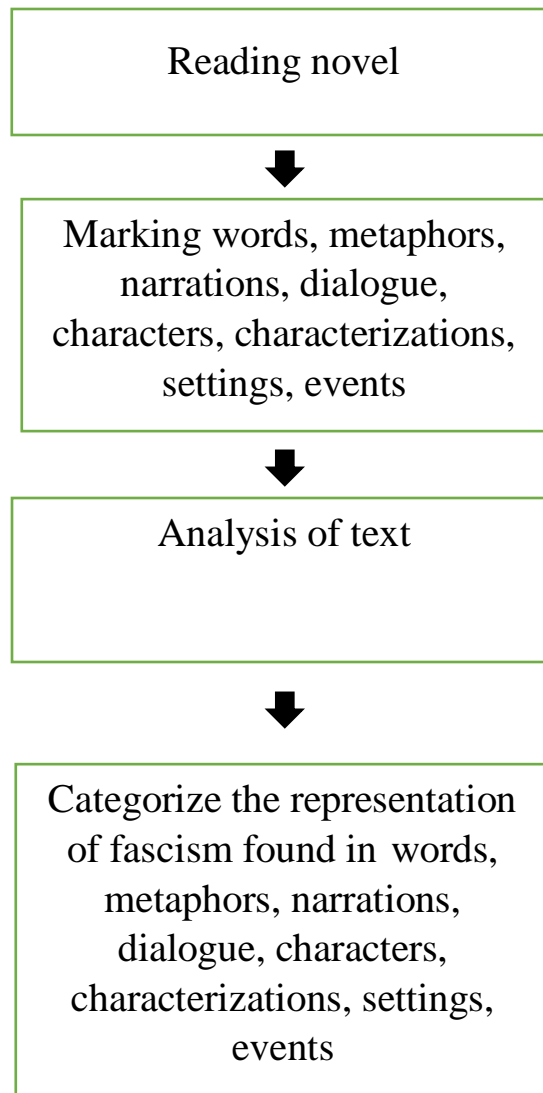


Bowden's interview with Ubisoft Workshop, he is an avid gamer and gains much of his inspiration for character development throughout the writing process from playing the Assassin's Creed series.

## Chapter III

### Research Methodology

Research methodology is needed in this research as a guideline in formulating the methodology and determining the appropriate method for analyzing and interpreting the data, below is the scheme of the method used in this research:



### **3.1 Research Method**

The research uses the literary approach as it is the base for analyzing fascism representation which can be found through words, metaphors, narrations, dialogue, characters, characterizations, settings, and events. Thus, a qualitative approach which focused on analyzing the relationship between words or sentences which produce particular meaning is used in this research.

The result of the qualitative research will be written in descriptive analytical which according to Kontour (2005:105) mean the research is providing lengthy description without any treatment to the object of the study. Methodical steps taken in this research are interpretation and reflection method. Method of interpretation is reading *Assassin's Creed: Unity* in order to summarize and understand the qualitative data obtained from the novel. Later, the reflection method is used to understand the representative of fascism in *Assassin's Creed: Unity* novel and the real world counterpart fascism as standard altogether with the use of Ebenstein's theory of principal element of fascist.

### **3.2 Technique of Collecting Data**

The technique of collecting data in this research are listed as below:

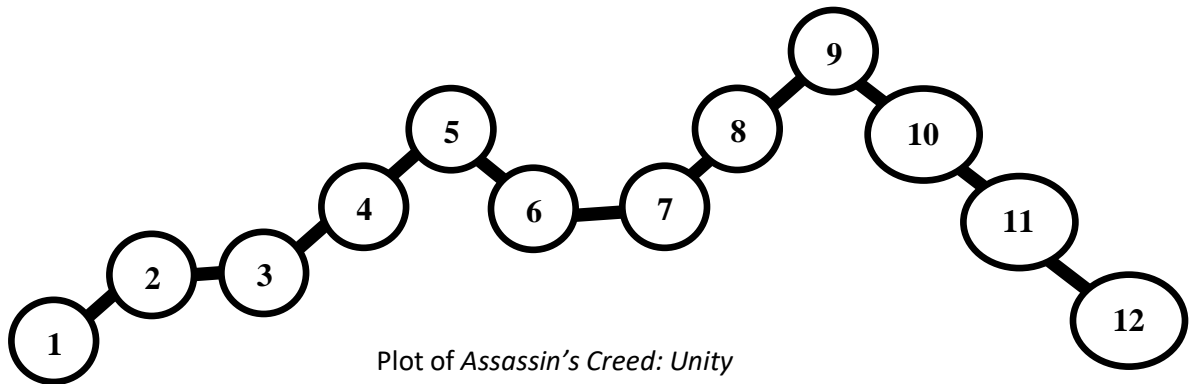
1. Reading the novel *Assassin's Creed: Unity*
2. Identifying and marking each word, metaphors, narrations, dialogue, characters, characterizations, settings, and events that are related to the topic of the research

### **3.3 Data Analysis**

The data collected through a comprehensive reading of the novel later interpreted and classified with the use of Ebenstein's principal element of fascist and categorized into data that related to the topic. In this research, quotations from the novel are used as representative data, they also served to determine whether the novel has an indication of fascism or not through Ebenstein's theory of fascism. The actual data sorting of this research is built in form of table.

The table consists of 4 columns which are numbers, a quotation from the novel, category represented according to Ebenstein's theory and page number the data were taken. After the table is established, the writer will conduct an analysis in narrative form with Ebenstein's Theory. Each part of Ebenstein's 7 principle fascism elements will be explained thoroughly whilst also including quotations from the novel and their respective explanation as to why they could fall into one of Ebenstein's fascism theory. The result of these steps above would be the finding and conclusion of this research.

## Chapter IV Data Analysis, Findings and Discussion



1. Flashback of Elise spent her childhood with Arno. Unbeknown to her, she is trained to be the future French Grand Master and Arno an orphan taken in by her father is the descendant of Dorian household Assassin.
2. One day little Elise spent her blissful days with her mother to a shoes store. On their way home, they are attacked by a rogue, but Elise mother saves the day with her sword skill.
3. Elise father and mother agreed to tell Elise her future and Arno origin. Since then she trained in swordplay with her mother protector, Mr. Weatherall. Elise mother died shortly bedridden after telling Elise her future.
4. Elise Attend an academy and left not long after to London seeking an adventure, only to find trouble with English Templar and becomes a fugitive.
5. Elise came back to the academy and finishes her study, later that night she is initiated into Templar and found her father killed after the initiation ceremony. Arno is suspected as the culprit since he is the last man saw together with Elise Father.

6. Several years passed by, Elise lost the leadership over French Templar. Arno freed himself from Bastille jail because of French Revolution ruckus.
7. Elise and Arno met and reconcile, both have 2 goals. First to find the killer of Elise father and second, to unite the Templar and Assassin.
8. Germain was found to be the killer of Elise father, he is also the one started the French revolution and hold control over French Templar.
9. Arno and Elise pursue Germain
10. Arno seek help from the Assassin Brotherhood while Elise trying to take back her control over the French Templar.
11. Elise killed in the final showdown, whilst Arno killed Germain.
12. Arno become the new leader of French Assassin and still trying to unite both organization.

The plot above is summary of novel *Assassin's Creed: Unity*, as we can see the plot of the novel revolve around Elise and Arno and their journey be it on their relationship nor their organization. The element of fascism in this novel is not told explicitly, below are the events the writer has compiled and listed in easy way to make the correlation between one event to another is coherent.

#### **4.1 Data Description**

Below are data sorted in table obtained from the book which has been matched with Ebenstein's principle fascism elements as elucidated in chapter III. There are 7

categories of fascist outlook which are; Totalitarianism, Distrust of reason, Denial of basic human equality, Code of behavior based on lies and violence, Government by elite, Racialism and Imperialism, Opposition to international law and order. The first column is the number of data. The second column is quotation taken from the book. The third column concern the quotation and the category they fall between 7 principle outlook of fascist, while the last column is pages the quotations are taken.

No	Data	Detail	Page
1	In a courtyard of the Hotel des Menus-Plaisir in Versailles, the king addressed the 1,614-strong meeting of the Estates General. It was the first time that the representatives of the three Estates-the clergy, the nobility, and the common man-had officially met since 1614, and the huge vaulted chamber was full row upon row of expectant Frenchmen hoping that the king would say something-anything-that would help pull his country from the swamp in which it was apparently mired.	Racialism and Imperialism & government by elite	101
2	Paris was in state of uproar as I made my way through the streets. It had been this way for over two weeks now, ever since twenty thousand of the king's men had arrived in Paris to put down disturbance, as well as threaten count Mirabeau and hid Third Estate deputies. Then, when the king dismissed his finance minister, Jacques Necker a man who many	Code of behavior based on lies and violence	110

	believed was the savior of the French people, there were more uprisings.		
3	<p>It feels as though France is falling down around my ears. The much-vaunted assembly of Estates General had been given a terrible birth by the king's cure for insomnia masquerading as a speech, and sure enough the whole charade swiftly descended into a parade of bickering and internecine strife, and nothing was achieved.</p> <p>How? Because prior to the meeting the Third Estate were angry. They were incensed at being the poorest and being charged the most taxes, and they were angry that despite making up the majority of the Estates General, they had fewer votes than the nobility and the clergy.</p> <p>After the meeting they were even more angry. They were angry that the king hadn't addressed any of their concerns. They were going to do something. The whole country-unless they were stupid or being willfully thick and stubborn-knew that something was going to happen.</p>	The denial of basic human equality & government by elite	105



4	<p>The king tried to stop them by closing the Salle des Etats meeting room, but that was like trying to shut the stable door when the horse had already bolted. Not to be deterred, they took their assembly to an indoor tennis court instead, and on 20 June, the national assembly swore an oath. The Tennis Court Oath they called it, which sounds comical, but it wasn't really.</p> <p>Not when you considered that they were planning to build a new constitution for France.</p> <p>Not when you considered it spelled the end of the monarchy.</p>	Racialism and Imperialism	105
5	<p>“Grand Master de la Serre, I have learned through my agents that an individual within our Order plots against you. I beg you be on your guard at the initiation tonight. Trust no one. Not even those you call friends. May the Father of understanding guide you.” -L</p>	Code of behavior based on lies and violence	106
6	<p>Days ago the Prison de l'Abbaye had been stormed to free the guardsmen imprisoned for refusing to fire on protestors.</p> <p>These days it was said that the common soldier was giving his loyalties to the people, not the king. Already it felt as though the National Assembly-now called the Constituent Assembly-was in charge. They had created their own flag: a</p>	Racialism and Imperialism	110

	<p>“tricolor”, which was everywhere. And if ever there was a symbol of the Assembly’s fast growing dominance, that was it.</p>		
7	<p>From above us, the musket fire stopped, the battle won now. I caught a glimpse of the governor, de Launay. He had been arrested and there was talk of talking him to the Hotel de Ville, the Paris city hall. For a moment I allowed myself a moment of relief. The revolution had maintained its head; there was to be no lust for blood.</p> <p>But I was wrong. A cry went up. Idiotically, de Launay had aimed a kick at a man in the crowd and, incensed, the man had leapt forward and plugged a knife into him. Soldiers attempting to protect him were pushed back by the crowd and de Launay disappeared beneath a seething mass of bodies. I saw blades arcing up and down, plumes blood making rainbows and heard one long, piercing scream like that of a wounded animal</p>	Code of behavior based on lies and violence	112
8	<p>“You say Ruddock was hired by the King of Beggars to kill your mother, maybe to curry favor with the Crows?”</p> <p>“That’s right”</p>	Totalitarianism	123

	<p>“Well he failed, didn’t he? Perhaps he’s been biding his time since, waiting for another opportunity to prove himself. Kills your father, finally gets what he wants- an initiation.”</p> <p>I considered. “Maybe, but it doesn’t make an awful lot of sense to me, and I still can’t understand why the Crows would want Mother dead. If anything, her third way was a bridge between the two sets of ideals.”</p> <p>“She was too strong for them, Elise. Too much of a threat”</p> <p>“A threat to whom, Mr. Weartherall? On whose authority is all this happening?”</p>		
9	<p>In the early hours of the morning the militia had stormed the Hotel des Invalides and got their hands on muskets, tens of thousands of muskets, by all account. But they had no gunpowder, so now they needed gunpowder. Where was there gunpowder?</p> <p>The Bastille</p>	Totalitarianism	110
10	<p>And what distinguished the two groups? Weapons. The carrying of weapons- I saw pitchforks, axes and staffs brandished and held aloft- and the locating of weapons. A whisper had become a shout had become a clamor: where are the muskets? Where are the pistols? Where is the gunpowder? Paris was a tinderbox</p>	Totalitarianism	110

11	In the streets was a cart bristling with muskets, probably liberated from the armory, and there were men and women handing them out to a sea of waving, upstretched hands.	Totalitarianism	111
12	I felt myself go cold “what you’re saying is, that it’s not just one individual, it’s a faction?”  “why not? In the last month we’ve seen the reign of a remote and disinterested king overthrown by revolution”	Racialism and  Imperialism,  Totalitarianism	124
13	“I mean that after months of sending letters and receiving evasive replies, no one wants to know, do they? Nobody will speak to me- to us- not even in secret. They say there’s a new grand master now; that the de la Serre era has come to an end. My correspondents no longer sign their letters. They implore me to burn them once I’ve read them. Whoever this new leader is, he’s got them scared.”	Distrust of  reasons	135
14	The purge is complete. Some turned, some were bribed and the others, the ones who were more resilient and tried to pledge their support, men like Monsieur Le Fanu, well, they were dealt with in other ways. One morning Monsieur Le Fanu was carried feet first and naked from a Parisian whorehouse, then left in the street to be gawked at by passerby, and for that dishonor, he was posthumously stripped of his Order status, and his wife and children, who	Totalitarianism	137

	<p>under normal circumstances would have benefitted from financial help, left in penury.</p> <p>Now, Monsieur Le Fanu was a family man, as devoted to his wife, Claire, as a man ever was. Not only would he never have visited a whorehouse, but I doubt he would have known what to do when he got there. Never did a man deserve a fate less than the one bestowed upon Monsieur Le Fanu.</p> <p>And that was what his loyalty to the name of de la Serre had cost him. It had cost him everything; his life, his reputation and honor, everything.</p> <p>I knew that any member of the Order who hadn't come into line was going to do so after that, when they knew the potential ignominy of their end. And sure enough, they had.</p> <p>"I want the wife and children of Monsieur Le Fanu Taken care of," I'd said to Mr. Weatherall.</p> <p>"Madame Le Fanu took her own life and that of the children," Mr. Weatherall told me. "She couldn't live with the disgrace."</p> <p>I closed my eyes, breathing in and out, trying to control a rage that threatened to boil over. More lives add to the list.</p>		
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15	<p>“You can’t fight them, Elise” he said, pushing tears from his eyes with angry palms. “They’re too strong now, too powerful. You can’t go up against them alone”</p>	Totalitarianism	140
16	<p>The courtyard of the L’Hotel Voysin was dusky gray. The building rose on every side and had once been grand, in looks as aristocratic as those who frequented it, but just as the aristocrats had been laid low by the Revolution-and each day were stripped further entitlements by the Assembly-so Voysin too.</p>	Government by Elite	143
17	<p>We walked and as we did so my thoughts went from Mirabeau, The Grand Master of the Assassins, to the man who had overthrown my own Order.</p> <p>“Do you really think we can find him?” I asked.</p> <p>“His luck can’t last forever. Francois Germain believe Lafreniere was....</p> <p>I stopped him “Francois Germain?”</p> <p>“yes” said Arno, “The silversmith who led me to Lafreniere”</p> <p>A wave of cold excitement swept through me.</p> <p>“Arno,” I gasped, “Francois Thomas Germain was my father’s lieutenant.”</p> <p>“A Templar?”</p>	Code of behavior based on lies and violence	148

	<p>“Former. He was cast out when I was younger, something about heretical notions and Jacques de Molay. I’m not entirely sure. But he should be dead. He died years ago.”</p> <p>Germain. Jacques de Molay. I put those thoughts aside to return to later, perhaps with the help of Mr. Weatherall.</p> <p>“This Germain is remarkably active for a corpse,” Arno was saying.</p> <p>I nodded. “I would very much like to ask him a few questions.”</p>		
18	<p>We began to look around, cautiously at first, rifling through papers, pulling aside items on shelves, not really sure what we were looking for, just looking, hoping to find some confirmation of the theory that this apparently innocent silversmith was in fact the former high-ranking Templar Germain.</p> <p>Because if he was, then that meant this apparently innocent silversmith was the man who had targeted my parents and was doing his level best to destroy every other aspect of my life</p>	Code of behavior based on lies and violence	149
19	<p>He tried a door that wouldn’t open and seemed about to leave it before I gave him a grin and kicked it down. What greeted us was another, slightly smaller chamber, this one full of</p>	Opposition to international law and order	150-151

	<p>symbols I recognized: Templar crosses wrought in silver, beautifully crafted goblets and carafes.</p> <p>No doubt about it, this was a Templar meeting place. On a raised dais at one end of the room was an ornate, intricately carved chair where the Grand Master would sit. On either side were chairs for his lieutenants.</p> <p>In the center of the room was a plinth, inset with crosses, and lying on it was a set of documents that I went to now, snatching them up, the feel of them familiar to me but also strange, as though they were out of place here in a chamber adjacent to a silversmith's workshop and not in the chateau of the de la Serre family.</p> <p>One of them was a set of orders. I had seen similar orders before, of course, signed by my father, but this one- this one was signed by Germain. Sealed with a red wax Templar cross.</p>		
20	<p>"Monsieur?" I said.</p> <p>There was no reply, no response at all from Mirabeau, whose ample chest, which should have been rising and falling with his breathing, remained still.</p> <p>I went over.</p> <p>Of course. He was dead.</p>	<p>Code of behavior based on lies and violence, Totalitarianism</p>	151



	<p>“Elise, what is this?” Arno’s voice from the door startled me, and I whirled around.</p> <p>A sudden feeling of misplaced guilt welled up within me. “I found him like this. I don’t...”</p> <p>He looked at me for a second longer than necessary,” Of course not. But I must report this to the Council. They’ll know...”</p> <p>“No,” I snapped. “They don’t trust me as it is. I’ll be their suspect, first and last.”</p> <p>“You’re right,” he said, nodding “Of course you’re right”</p>		
21	<p>“Did everything I teach you bounce off that armor-plated skull?” roared Bellec. “We are fighting for the freedom of the human soul. Leading the revolution against Templar tyranny”.</p>	Distrust of reason	152
22	<p>“The new Grand Master, the architect of the takeover, is Francois Thomas Germain”</p> <p>Mr. Weatherall made a hissing noise, “Of course”</p> <p>“You said he was cast out of the Order...”</p> <p>“He was. Our friend Germain was an adherent of Jacques de Molay, first-ever Grand master. Molay died screaming at the stake in 1314, raining curses down on anyone in the near vicinity.</p>	Opposition to International law and Order	160

	<p>Master de Molay is the sort of bloke nobody can decide on, but that was an argument you had to have in private back then because showing support for his ideas was heresy.</p> <p>“and Germain- Germain was a heretic. He was a heretic who had the ear of the Grand Master. To end the dissension, he was expelled. Your father had begged Germain to come back into line and his heart was heavy to expel Germain. The Order was told that any man standing by him would be exiled as well. Long afterward his death was announced, but by then he was just a bad memory anyway. Not so, eh? Germain had been rallying supporter, controlling things behind the scenes, gradually rewriting the manifesto. And now he’s in charge, and the Order scratches its heads and wonders how we moved from unswerving support of the king to wanting him dead, and the answer is that it happened because there was nobody to oppose it. Checkmate” Mr. Weatherall smiled.</p>		
23	<p>“Besides, we can be sure that Germain has used his own networks. He’ll have assured our brothers overseas that the overthrow was necessary and that the French Order in is good hands.”</p>	Totalitarianism	161
24	<p>This was him Francois Thomas Germain.</p>	Totalitarianism, distrust of reason	162

	<p>I knew it was him. He wore the robes of the Grand Master.</p> <p>And I wondered what bystanders thought, seeing this robe man take such an exalted viewing position? Did they see an enemy of the Revolution? Or a friend?</p> <p>Or, as their faces were turned quickly away, as though not wanting to catch Germain’s eye, did they just see a man to fear? Certainly he looked fearsome. He had a cruel, turned-down mouth and eyes that even from this distance I could see were dark and penetrating. There was something about his stare that was disquieting. His graying hair was tied back in a black bow and he was clad in the dark robes of a Templar Grand Master.</p>		
25	<p>“The death of de la Serre was only the first stage,” Germain said. “This is the culmination. The fall of a Church, the end of a regime... the death of a king.”</p> <p>“and what did the king do to you?” sneered Arno. “Cost your job? Take your wife as a mistress?”</p> <p>Germain was shaking his head as though disappointed with a pupil. “The king is a merely a symbol. A symbol can inspire fear, and fear can inspire control-but men inevitably lose their fear of symbols. As you can see.”</p>	Totalitarianism	163

<p>He was gesturing toward the scaffold, where the king, denied his final chance to recover some of his regal pride, had been forced down to his knees. His chin was fitted into the notched block, the skin of his neck was exposed for the waiting guillotine.</p> <p>Germain said. “This was the truth de Molay died for: The Divine Right of Kings is nothing but the reflection of sunlight upon gold. And when Crown and Church are ground to dust, we who control the gold will decide the future.”</p> <p>There was a ripple of excitement around the crowd, which then feel to a hush. This was it. This, was the moment. Looking over, I saw the guillotine blade shimmer, then drop with a soft thunk, followed by the sound of the king’s head falling into the basket below the block.</p> <p>There was a moment of silence in the courtyard, which was followed by a sound I would find difficult to identify at first, until, later I recognized it for what it was. I recognized it from the Maison Royale. It was the sound a classroom full of pupils makes when they realize they’ve gone too far, when a collective intake of breath says there’s no going back. “that’s torn it, there’s going to be trouble now.”</p>		
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	Speaking almost under his breath, Germain said, “Jacques de Molay, you are avenged,” and I knew I was dealing with an extremist, fanatic, a madman. A man whom human life had no cost other than its worth in the promotion of his own ideals, which, as the man in charge of the Templar Order, made him perhaps the most dangerous man in France		
26	They called it the Terror.  enemies of the Revolution were being sent to the guillotine by the dozens-for opposing the Revolution, for hoarding grain, for helping foreign armies. They called the guillotine “the national razor” and it worked hard, claiming two or three heads a day in the Place de Revolution alone. France cowered beneath the threat of its dropping blade.	Totalitarianism,  code of behavior  based on lies and  violence	166
27	“Paris is tearing itself apart”, I told him, “Germain has driven the Revolution to new heights of depravity. The guillotines operate nearly twenty-four hours a day now.”	Totalitarianism	168
28	“it is an honor Grand master,” his words sounded hollow and he turned quickly away to lead us across the courtyard and my pre-meeting flutters returned tenfold.  I glanced at Jean, who pulled a face, unnerved by the situation.  “are the others assembled, Pimodian?” I asked, as we made our way to a set of double doors leading into the main building. The manservant opened them and ushered us in.	Racialism and  Imperialism,  Totalitarianism	128-  129

<p>“the room is ready for you, Grand Master,” Pimodan replied evasively as we stepped over the threshold into a darkened dining room with boarded-up windows and sheets over the furniture.</p> <p>The manservant closed the double doors, then waited there, allowing Pimodan to lead us across the floor to a thick, almost ornamental door in the far wall.</p> <p>“yes, but which members are in attendance?” I asked. The words were croaky. My throat was dry.</p> <p>He said nothing in Response, gripped a large iron ring on the door and turned it. The chunk sound it made was like a pistol shot in the room.</p> <p>“Monsieur Pimodan...” I prompted.</p> <p>The door opened out onto stone steps leading down, the way lit by flickering torches bolted to the walls. Orange flame dance on rough stone walls.</p> <p>“come,” said Pimodan still ignoring me. He was clutching something, I realized. A crucifix. And that was it. I’d had enough.</p> <p>“stop” I commanded.</p> <p>Pimodan was taking another step as though he hadn’t heard me, but I whipped back my overcoat, drew my sword and put the point of it to the back of his neck. And that stopped him. Behind me Jean Burnel drew his sword.</p> <p>Who’s down there, Pimodan?” I demanded to know. “A friend or foe?”</p> <p>Silence</p> <p>“don’t test me, Pimodan,” I growled, prodding his neck. “If I’m mistaken, then I’ll offer you my most humble apologies,</p>		
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	<p>but until that time I have a feeling that there's something very wrong here, and I want to know why.”</p> <p>Pimodan's shoulders heaved as he sighed, as though about to throw off the yoke of a huge secret.</p> <p>“It's because there's nobody here, mademoiselle.”</p> <p>I went cold, heard a strange whining noise in my ears as I struggled to understand. “What? Nobody”</p> <p>“Nobody”</p> <p>I half turned to Jean Burnel, who stared unable to believe his own ears. “What about the Marquis de Kilmister?” I said.</p> <p>“Jean-Jacques Calvert and his father? The Marquis de Simonon?”</p> <p>Pimodan inclined his neck away from my blade to shake his head slowly.</p> <p>“Pimodan?” I insisted, nudging it back. “Where are my supporters?”</p> <p>He spread his hands, “All I know is that there was an attack by sans-culottes at the Calvert chateau this morning,” he said, “Both Jean-Jacques and his father perished in a fire, of the others, I know nothing.”</p> <p>My blood ran cold. To Burnel I said,” A purge. This is a purge.”</p>		
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#### 4.2 Data Analysis

From data description above, the writer would like to analyze the data deeper and explaining why these quotations above could be called or fall within the category of Ebenstein's fascism element.

## 1. Totalitarianism

Fascism is totalitarianism; authority and violence are the tools fascist use for their own good, whether the goal is political or not as long it fits the ideal image of a fascist, fascist will do anything to achieve it. The so-called ideal image of fascist according to fascism theory is called Utopia, to construct this Utopia all existing structures must be leveled whether parties, unions, families, even a kingdom as to fit the fascist ideal image of a strong nation.

In *Assassin's Creed: Unity*, Francois Thomas Germain an outcast of Templar is the mastermind behind events occurred in French and French Revolution. Germain uses the social relation to employ lies, violence, and force before finally uses authority when the Grand Master position is his to achieve a nation based on de Molay image. For detail, it can be seen below.

C.J Friedrich (2002:19) in Passmore define totalitarianism as follows:

- a) A single mass party

The government in *Assassin's Creed: Unity* is a monarchy. King Louis XVI of French is the sovereign of French at the times. Germain before the start of the novel is lieutenant and adviser of Francois de la Serre until he's presumed dead because of his view which deemed heresy by most of the Templar.

Years passed, during the absence of Germain he actually works behind the scene to build relationship with rogue hitman, King of Beggars (a man goes by the name Roi des Thunes whom control beggar's society and treating them cruelly if they



don't pay tribute to him), the majority of Crows (nickname of Francois de la Serre lieutenant and adviser given by Elise). Until ironically French Templar Order which banished Germain welcomed him as the new Grand Master of French Order, controlling most aspect in French through French revolution which was incited by Germain.

One important element of fascism is the in:86) stated that Fascism ascribes an almost sacred power to the leader, in order that he can maintain his appeal and increase his acceptance among the people. The leader is the ruler of the whole country.

Germain is feared because of two factors, firstly his view on the Order believing that the Order must follow de Molay teaching. viewed as extremist the Order stripped his status and exiled him because of heresy while in surface he was stated dead.

**“His luck can't last forever. Francois Germain believe Lafreniere was.... I stopped him “Francois Germain?”**  
**“yes” said Arno, “The silversmith who led me to Lafreniere.”**  
**A wave of cold excitement swept through me.**  
**“Arno,” I gasped, “Francois Thomas Germain was my father's lieutenant.”**  
**“A Templar?”**  
**“Former. He was cast out when I was younger, something about heretical notions and Jacques de Molay. I'm not entirely sure. But he should be dead. He died years ago.” (Bowden, 2014:148)**

The second factor is his achievement in overthrowing Templar and seen as a prominent figure in the revolution.

**“This was him Francois Thomas Germain.**

**I knew it was him. He wore the robes of the Grand Master. And I wondered what bystanders thought, seeing this robe man take such an exalted viewing position? Did they see an enemy of the Revolution? Or a friend?**

**Or, as their faces were turned quickly away, as though not wanting to catch Germain's eye, did they just see a man to fear?” (Bowden, 2014:162)**

From a dialogue between Arno and Elise and Elise inner thought passage above shows that Francois Thomas Germain is feared within French Templar Order and people of French, this represent the presence of Germain to portray fascist leader as sacred. The psychological effect showed in Elise inner thought also represent how public feel under pressure from Germain control.

The new Templar under Germain leadership also shows, that he would achieve his goal for his Utopia through any means necessary even if chaos or overthrowing the current ruler is the only way.

**“Germain was shaking his head as though disappointed with a pupil. “The king is a merely a symbol. A symbol can inspire fear, and fear can inspire control- but men inevitably lose their fear of symbols. As you can see.”**

**“He was gesturing toward the scaffold, where the king, denied his final chance to recover some of his regal pride, had been forced down to his knees. His chin was fitted into the notched block, the skin of his neck was exposed for the waiting guillotine.”**

**“Germain said. “This was the truth de Molay died for: The Divine Right of Kings is nothing but the reflection of sunlight upon gold. And when Crown and Church are ground to dust, we who control the gold will decide the future.”**  
(Bowden, 2014:163)

The narration from Germain above about the downfall of the king and control represent the fascism because the absolute sovereign King Louis XVI who control and maintain everything in French was forced to death by guillotine, even the power of French guards cannot stop the revolution led by Germain. Germain thinks Louis XVI is only a symbol and it isn't the true representation of a country instead it is Germain with French Templar Order who can make French rise to greater height.

French Templar Order under Germain leadership has become a single mass party that led a revolution against monarchy starting the regime of terror. This regime of terror fit perfectly with Ebenstein's theory because the mass party has significance on totalitarianism of fascist regime. In this novel, Germain and his French Templar Order is the mass party controlling French starting the regime of terror and fascism.

b) A system of Terror by the police and secret police

French Templar Order is Germain biggest force he has. After his initiation and rose to power as Grand Master. French Templar Order starting to eliminate everything which could hinder them.

**“Pimodan’s shoulders heaved as he sighed, as though about to throw off the yoke of a huge secret.**

**“It’s because there’s nobody here, mademoiselle.”**

**“I went cold, heard a strange whining noise in my ears as I struggled to understand. “What? Nobody”**

**“Nobody”**

**“I half turned to Jean Burnel, who stared unable to believe his own ears. “What about the Marquis de Kilmister?” I said. “Jean-Jacques Calvert and his father? The Marquis de Simonon?”**

**Pimodan inclined his neck away from my blade to shake his head slowly.**

**“Pimodan?” I insisted, nudging it back. “Where are my supporters?”**

**He spread his hands, “All I know is that there was an attack by sansculottes at the Calvert chateau this morning,” he said, “Both Jean-Jacques and his father perished in a fire, of the others, I know nothing.”**

**My blood ran cold. To Burnel I said, “A purge. This is a purge.” (Bowden, 2014:128-129)**

From the dialogue above, the representation of fascism fitting the secret police and terror is displayed. With the current power of the Order, Germain can make his

enemies disappear like it was an accident and no one will ever know the truth except those who fight against him.

c) A monopolistic control of the mass media.

The appearance of media in this novel almost non-existent since the said media isn't showed properly. However, there is one passage in the novel showing Germain control over media.

**“Besides, we can be sure that Germain has used his own networks. He'll have assured our brothers overseas that the overthrow was necessary and that the French Order in is good hands.”** (Bowden, 2014:161)

In the narration above by Mr. Weatherall, the networks used by Germain to contact overseas Order surely have intercept every letter sent by Mr. Weatherall asking for support to overthrow Germain, but until then no one comes to support Elise cause. In other words, the mail sent by Mr. Weatherall is manipulated which is done likely by the mail company. The representation of fascism here also matched what Ebenstein's theory about mass media being controlled, though the media isn't explained explicitly.

d) A near monopoly of weapons.

Assassin's Creed series has unique artifacts left behind by First Civilization (Genius human presumed deity by some who have been destroyed by disastrous disaster). One of this known artifact can brainwash people in monstrous scale, in *Assassin's Creed: Unity* an artifact left by the First Civilization which can destroy anything is in Germain possession.

**“He produced a sword of uncanny powers. This sword was the kind of thing I would have once laughed off and said it must be a trick. These days, of**

**course, I knew better than to scoff at things I didn't understand, and anyway, as Germain wielded the strange glowing thing, it appeared to harness and unleash great bolts of energy as though converting them from the air around him. It appeared to glow and spark. No, there was nothing laughable whatsoever about this sword.”** (Bowden, 2014:171)

The narration by Arno above depicts the Sword of Eden, an artifact left behind by the First Civilization, cannon and musket are thought to be the strongest firepower at the times but the projectile and the actual use these weapons are way inferior to Sword of Eden as seen below.

**“I wonder about the fantastical sword that had given him the edge over me—even as it spoke again, sparking and throwing out a bolt of energy that seemed to leap for me as though it had a mind of its own.”** (Bowden, 2014:171)

From two passages above, it shows how Germain having the Sword of Eden greatly enhances his power and battle prowess, having the sole Sword of Eden which can't be found anywhere since it is one of a kind it can be said that Germain monopolizes a powerful weapon.

Apart from having the Sword of Eden, Germain sparks the revolution and lets the revolution do however they wish like razing buildings or stealing weapons while actually, the Templars should prohibit it.

**“In the early hours of the morning the militia had stormed the Hotel des Invalides and got their hands on muskets, tens of thousands of muskets”** (Bowden, 2014:110)

**“In the streets was a cart bristling with muskets, probably liberated from the armory, and there were men and women handing them out to a sea of waving, upstretched hands.”** (Bowden, 2014:111)

The passage above shows how the revolution got weapons to oppose the king's army. From two points above the monopoly represents fascism. Fascism needs to monopolize

weapons to control their people, spreading fear and making sure that the enemy won't disturb fascist regime.

e) Central control of the economy

In this novel the control of the economy isn't showed in form of bank or market, instead, it showed how a group or individual control resources which can be counted as wealth too.

**“The purge is complete. Some turned, some were bribed and the others, the ones who were more resilient and tried to pledge their support, men like Monsieur Le Fanu, well, they were dealt with in other ways. One morning Monsieur Le Fanu was carried feet first and naked from a Parisian whorehouse, then left in the street to be gawked at by passerby, and for that dishonor, he was posthumously stripped of his Order status, and his wife and children, who under normal circumstances would have benefitted from financial help, left in penury.”**  
(Bowden, 2014:137)

From the passage above, Germain who has control over the Order bribed and revoke financial help for those who rebelled against him. This represents fascism regime on how one control an organization finance, since most of the noble families in French are dependent on the tax and king they can live freely, but when the king fall and revolution took place, only Germain have control over resources, manpower, and stable economy to support those in his cause with Templar backing.

## **2. Distrust of reason**

The distrust of reason is the most significant trait of fascism. While the world revolves around something logical and rational, fascism tends to make people distrusting reason in social relation, being irrational, sentimental which led fascist

regime people fanatical and dogmatic. As a result, the fascist regime has taboo issues that shouldn't be discussed and must be accepted nevertheless.

In *Assassin's Creed: Unity*, de Molay teaching about how Templar should lead the world to emphasize capitalism and controlling human that isn't Templar. only Germain accept this teaching while the other not. Believing Germain may destroy Templar from within he is forcefully exiled and marked as a heretic. As a result Germain led a coup to take the position of Grand Master himself.

**“The purge is complete. Some turned, some were bribed and the others, the ones who were more resilient and tried to pledge their support, men like Monsieur Le Fanu, well, they were dealt with in other ways.”** (Bowden, 2014:137)

**“I half turned to Jean Burnel, who stared unable to believe his own ears. “What about the Marquis de Kilmister?” I said. “Jean-Jacques Calvert and his father? The Marquis de Simonon?”**

**Pimodan inclined his neck away from my blade to shake his head slowly.**

**“Pimodan?” I insisted, nudging it back. “Where are my supporters?”**

**He spread his hands, “All I know is that there was an attack by sans-culottes at the Calvert chateau this morning,” he said, “Both Jean-Jacques and his father perished in a fire, of the others, I know nothing.”** (Bowden, 2014:128-129)

In two passage above it shows how those who are still supporting Elise was deemed a punishment. It means that whoever isn't supporting Germain cause becoming a target for his hitman. This represents how dogmatic and fanatic Germain to de Molay teaching more so with him abusing his authority. Adding to the fact that no one can doubt or question the leader of the fascism regime this represent Ebenstein's distrust of reasons.

### 3. Denial of basic human equality

Fascism rejects equality, a regime of fascism affirmation of inequality based on strength. In *Assassin's Creed: Unity* the status of those who born from nobility or part of Templar are regarded as highborn while the commoner (Third estates) is lowborn.

**“It feels as though France is falling down around my ears. The much-vaunted assembly of Estates General had been given a terrible birth by the king’s cure for insomnia masquerading as a speech, and sure enough the whole charade swiftly descended into a parade of bickering and internecine strife, and nothing was achieved.**

**How? Because prior to the meeting the Third Estate were angry. They were incensed at being the poorest and being charged the most taxes, and they were angry that despite making up the majority of the Estates General, they had fewer votes than the nobility and the clergy.**

**After the meeting they were even more angry. They were angry that the king hadn’t addressed any of their concerns. They were going to do something. The whole country-unless they were stupid or being willfully thick and stubborn-knew that something was going to happen.”** (Bowden, 2014:105)

In the narration above it shows how nobility has so much benefit rather than commoner proved by how they have fewer votes and charged the most with taxes. The king himself is a representation of denial of basic human equality in that era. Another passage depicting denial of basic human equality also can be seen below.

**“He was posthumously stripped of his Order status, and his wife and children, who under normal circumstances would have benefitted from financial help, left in penury.”** (Bowden, 2014:137)

The passage above shows how a member of the Templar Order after stripped of his status as Templar by Germain become another commoner. This represents fascism regime that denies equality because strength is everything.



#### 4. Code of behavior based on lies and violence

Violence and lies are tools to control people in fascism regime. Germain sparking the revolution made French blooded with revolution represent the code of behavior based on lies and violence as seen in dialogue and passage below.

**“Paris is tearing itself apart”, I told him, “Germain has driven the Revolution to new heights of depravity. The guillotines operate nearly twenty-four hours a day now.”** (Bowden, 2014:168)

**“They called it the Terror.**

**Enemies of the Revolution were being sent to the guillotine by the dozens- for opposing the Revolution, for hoarding grain, for helping foreign armies. They called the guillotine “the national razor” and it worked hard, claiming two or three heads a day in the Place de Revolution alone. France cowered beneath the threat of its dropping blade.”** (Bowden, 2014:166)

#### 5. Government by elite

The concept that only a small minority of the population qualified to rule other based on birth, education or social status. *Assassin’s Creed: Unity* has a similarity be it the concept of the background and setting of the story that took place in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**“In a courtyard of the Hotel des Menus-Plaisir in Versailles, the king addressed the 1,614-strong meeting of the Estates General. It was the first time that the representatives of the three Estates-the clergy, the nobility, and the common man-had officially met since 1614, and the huge vaulted chamber was full row upon row of expectant Frenchmen hoping that the king would say something-anything-that would help pull his country from the swamp in which it was apparently mired.”** (Bowden, 2014:101)

**“Germain said. “This was the truth de Molay died for: The Divine Right of Kings is nothing but the reflection of sunlight upon gold. And when Crown and Church are ground to dust, we who control the gold will decide the future.”** (Bowden, 2014:143)

The two narration above shows how much power and influence a nobility or king have when he/she summon others, The Divine Right of the Kings which declared as absolute derived from **RIGHT** meaning the ruler has absolute control over the country also supports the representation of fascism. Another line by Germain in second passage “We who control the gold will decide the future.” Also, fit as government by the elite fascist outlook for Templar to start fascist regime under Germain control.

## **6. Racialism and Imperialism**

Racist and imperialism is another fascism regime trait. In *Assassin's Creed: Unity*. Although the racist level of the novel can be considered as little since it only happens between nobility and commoner which stopped at the level of spitting each other. The Imperialism scale is limited in French and between social class, in this novel, Germain led the revolution and destroyed the monarchy making him the new ruler of French.

**“The national assembly swore an oath. The Tennis Court Oath they called it, which sounds comical, but it wasn't really. Not when you considered that they were planning to build a new constitution for France. Not when you considered it spelled the end of the monarchy.”** (Bowden, 2014:105)

**“Germain had been rallying supporter, controlling things behind the scenes, gradually rewriting the manifesto. And now he’s in charge, and the Order scratches its heads and wonders how we moved from unswerving support of the king to wanting him dead, and the answer is that it happened because there was nobody to oppose it. Checkmate” Mr. Weatherall smiled.”** (Bowden, 2014:160)

**“We began to look around, cautiously at first, rifling through papers, pulling aside items on shelves, not really sure what we were looking for, just looking, hoping to find some confirmation of the theory that this apparently innocent silversmith was in fact the former high-ranking Templar Germain.**

**Because if he was, then that meant this apparently innocent silversmith was the man who had targeted my parents and was doing his level best to destroy every other aspect of my life”** (Bowden, 2014:149)

**“Days ago the Prison de l’Abbaye had been stormed to free the guardsmen imprisoned for refusing to fire on protestors. These days it was said that the common soldier was giving his loyalties to the people, not the king. Already it felt as though the National Assembly-now called the Constituent Assembly-was in charge. They had created their own flag: a “tricolor”, which was everywhere. And if ever there was a symbol of the Assembly’s fast growing dominance, that was it.”** (Bowden, 2014:110)

These four passages above support what the writer said at the first sub-title of racialism and imperialism. Germain with the revolution created an assembly to overthrow the monarchy of French. Thus Germain can be seen as a fascist ruler with big ambition to extend his power through imperialism.

## **7. Opposition to international law and order.**

Opposition to internal law and order is the fruit of fascist belief in inequality, violence, racialism, imperialism, and war. The way this book represent fascism through revolution and Germain ideal Utopia is opposition to international law and order. Because it is clear the Templar Order was against this idea but ultimately Germain made the Order bend with his will as seen in the passage below.

**“One of them was a set of orders. I had seen similar orders before, of course, signed by my father, but this one- this one was signed by Germain. Sealed with a red wax Templar cross.” (Bowden, 2014:150-151)**

**“The new Grand Master, the architect of the takeover, is Francois Thomas Germain”**

**Mr. Weatherall made a hissing noise, “Of course”**

**“You said he was cast out of the Order...”**

**“He was. Our friend Germain was an adherent of Jacques de Molay, first-ever Grand master. Molay died screaming at the stake in 1314, raining curses down on anyone in the near vicinity.**

**Master de Molay is the sort of bloke nobody can decide on, but that was an argument you had to have in private back then because showing support for his ideas was heresy.**

**“and Germain- Germain was a heretic. He was a heretic who had the ear of the Grand Master. To end the dissension, he was expelled. Your father had begged Germain to come back into line and his heart was heavy to expel Germain. The Order was told that any man standing by him would be exiled as well. Long afterward his death was announced, but by then he was just a bad memory anyway. Not so, eh? Germain had been rallying supporter, controlling things behind the scenes, gradually rewriting the manifesto. And now he’s in charge, and the Order scratches its heads and wonders how we moved from unswerving support of the king to wanting him dead, and the answer is that it happened because there was nobody to oppose it. Checkmate” Mr. Weatherall smiled.” (Bowden, 2014:160)**

**“I mean that after months of sending letters and receiving evasive replies, no one wants to know, do they? Nobody will speak to me- to us- not even in secret. They say there’s a new grand master now; that the de la Serre era has come to an end. My correspondents no longer sign their letters. They implore me to burn them once I’ve read them. Whoever this new leader is, he’s got them scared.” (Bowden, 2014:135)**

The three passages above show Germain having authority as fascist ruler and the story when he was exiled as a heretic but now being the Grand Master forcing his will upon the Order. Before it was Francois de la Serre and King Louis XVI who represent the law but after the take over Germain is the new law and order opposing both.

### 4.3 Finding

From all explanations above, the writer concludes that this book is representing fascism. The book through the character Germain and French Revolution with any changes it brought have done all seven elements of principle fascist outlook by William Ebenstein. Fascism in this novel is presented as something horrible represented by Germain and the revolution brought by him in Arno and Elise point of view. The fascism of this novel lies in:

1. Germain from simple silversmith rise to power into the new Grand Master of Templar starting a reign of Terror and took the Divine Right of Kings by Force.
2. Germain controls almost all aspect of life in French. Starting from the financial of Templar and nobles, weapons, influence and he is the instigator of French Revolution which become the starting mark of his fascist regime
3. The imperialism in this novel is limited to French Templar Order and French as a nation engulfed in Revolution.

The fascism shows that this book represents fascism in the scale of one nation, the ruler starts the regime to make his Utopia real and French at his mercy which fit with the theory although lacking in some aspect such as racialism. Nevertheless, this novel can be considered as fascism book and shows how bad a fascism could be through the bloody revolution.

In this novel, Arno and the Assassins pursue Germain to bring justice to French. Arno and his Assassins colleague aren't aligned toward what Germain do with French

since the Assassins strive a country free from worry, terror, and violence which is the opposite of what Germain want. the citizen of French also shows the feeling of fear when they are executing King Louis XVI, the fear source come from Germain. This statement can be seen when they aren't making any eye contact or dare to view Germain during the execution.

Thus it can be said that fascist ruler represented in this novel is bad. First, they may have a common goal with militia but in the end, fascist ruler only uses them to achieve their goal. Second, fascist ruler monopoly most of the resources, this, in turn, made them have a tremendous advantage. And lastly, the power of their backing be it a party or military power displaying power and dictator rule.

#### **4.4 Discussion**

Fascism (Ideology) and Fascist (Person) are both surfaced during World War 1, although the ideology seems a mix of some ideologies like communism, socialism, nationalism and such, there is a great difference between them. Throughout history, these ideologies proved their pros and con and eventually vanish into books of history and ideology. Some example from the past are Mussolini with his Falangist party and Hitler with his Nazi. These two are histories example of how bad fascism and more so on how it could lead to a downfall of a country.

Through Assassin's Creed: Unity, Fascism, and Fascist can be found. The fact that author of this book who had lived past war times could write this into fiction is wondrous, the reason comes from the entertainment element of fiction. Most

Indonesian students nowadays are lazy to read more so about history. This book however presents a concrete story about fascism and fascist and how bad it is, thus presenting an alternative of learning material through literary work.

The writer also utilizes Ebenstein's theory of 7 fascism outlook, by using Ebenstein's theory of 7 fascism outlook the analysis would be easier. The reasons are; Firstly, with Ebenstein's theory, the data mined data can be easily categorized. Second, the description for each outlook matched with each real-life historical figures made the theory are easier to understand, and third the result of categorizing the data makes it easier to consider whether it is a literary work, organization, or person have fascism ideology or not.

## **Chapter V**

# **Conclusions and Suggestions**

### **5.1 Conclusions**

After having summarized The Representation of Fascism in Bowden's *Assassin's Creed: Unity*, the writer concludes that this novel indeed has fascism. The represented fascism in this novel ultimately lies in Francois Thomas Germain and French Revolution he started. Germain has done all 7 principal elements of fascist outlook by William Ebenstein. This makes him as fascist in French.

French in the past with monarchy ruler isn't different with today monarchy in which the king or emperor is the sovereign of that country, the position later is inherited by his/her offspring. However, Germain upon learning De Molay teaching about how a country should work starting fascism regime. He used Templar as his force and led the current Templar Grand Master of French together with King Louis XVI of French to their death taking the position of French sovereign behind scenes. He also makes sure to cut off anyone rebelling him be it Templar or Assassin, controlling everything starting from weapons, financial power, resources and communication (media) thus starting the regime of Terror.

The way Germain starting French revolution is also considered as a fascist movement. Germain displaying hatred and elitist attitude toward anyone who isn't part of Templar and nobility, disregard for ethical ideas, will rise into power. He also harbors genocidal ambition, proved with the start of French revolution taking a toll in



a lot of innocent lives through Guillotine making it as a symbol of the nation fear. All of these in order to forcibly unite French under his totalitarian rule.

All of these points above are prove, that Germain in *Assassin's Creed: Unity* is representing fascism. The representation of fascism lies in 3 points which are:

1. Germain from simple silversmith rise to power into the new Grand Master of Templar starting a reign of Terror and took the Divine Right of Kings by Force.
2. Germain controls almost all aspect of life in French. Starting from the financial of Templar and nobles, weapons, influence and he is the instigator of French Revolution which become the starting mark of his fascist regime
3. The imperialism in this novel is limited to French Templar Order and French as a nation engulfed in Revolution.

The constructed fascism shows that this book represents fascism in the scale of one nation, the ruler starts the regime to make his Utopia real and French at his mercy which fit with the theory although lacking in some aspect such as racialism. Nevertheless, this novel can be considered as fascism book and shows how bad a fascism could be through the bloody revolution.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

After concluding this research, the writer realizes this research is far from perfect. the writer would like to give some suggestion especially for those in literary and letters field or students. Firstly, the writer suggests they should read numerous books be it fiction or non-fiction, this would help enormously when they would do a research in future.

Second, is related to fascism themed research. For those interested in this theme, the writer suggests the further researchers enrich their knowledge about history especially a leading figure and read a lot of ideology books since this was the way the writer found out that *Assassin's Creed: Unity* contain such ideology. It is recommended if the next researcher read related research in the past beforehand since it could enrich the data and theories.

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## Curriculum Vitae



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