Narrative Structure of Kurniawan's Cantik Itu Luka

A Research Paper

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Degree (S-1).

By:

Muhamad Lutfi
197010015

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND LETTERS
PASUNDAN UNIVERSITY
BANDUNG
2026

Declaration of Originality

The undersigned:

Name	:	Muhamad Lutfi
Student Number	:	197010015
Department	:	English Literature
Faculty	:	Arts and Letters

The researcher hereby declares that the thesis entitled “Narrative Structure of Kurniawan’s Cantik Itu Luka” is the result of his own work. This thesis is not made to obtain a bachelor's degree or diploma from another university or derived from the research results of other parties. In addition, this thesis does not contain material from other people's publications or writings, except those that have been included in the bibliography as research references. The researcher is also willing to accept sanctions if proven to have plagiarized.

Bandung, March 2026

Muhamad Lutfi
NPM. 197010015

Approval Page

Narrative Structure of Kurniawan's Cantik Itu Luka

By:
Muhamad Lutfi

197010015

Approved by:

Advisor I	Advisor II
Erik Rusmana, S.S, M.Hum.	**Husni Thamrin, S.S., M.Hum**
NIP. Y 151 10 348	**NIP. Y. 151 10 540**

Acknowledged by:

Dean of Faculty of Arts and Letters	Head of English Department
Budi Setiawan, S.Li., M.Sn.,M.H.	**Dr. Zubaedah Wiji Lestari, M.Pd**
NIP. Y. 151 10 916	**NIP. Y. 15 181276 2022 1 1005**

Dedication Page

After this research is completed, with full gratitude, the researcher would like to dedicate this work to his beloved mother, Ida Puspitasari, and father, Tatang Samsudin. Although this work is humble, the researcher would like to express my deepest respect, devotion, and gratitude to my parents who always provide endless love, prayers, and support. Without their sincerity and sacrifice, this journey would not have been possible. The researcher realizes that no work can truly repay all the kindness, affection, and sacrifice of parents. However, hopefully this work can be the beginning of something bigger, a little happiness for Mom and Dad, as an expression of gratitude for everything they have given. Researchers also understand that there are still many things that cannot be done, there are still hopes that have not been realized. However, by sticking to the principles believed during this research, researchers hope to continue to move forward and become better. The motto that has always been a guide in this research journey is:

لَا يُكَلِّفُ اللّٰهُ نَفْسًا اِلَّا وُسْعَهَاۗ

lâ yukallifullâhu nafsan illâ wus‘ahâ

"*Allah tidak membebani seseorang, kecuali menurut kesanggupannya*."(QS. Al-Baqarah {2}: 286)

Preface

Praise be to Allah. Finally, the researcher successfully completed the thesis entitled “Narrative Structure of Kurniawan’s Cantik Itu Luka”.

The researcher realizes that nothing is truly perfect, so there are still shortcomings in this research. With full openness, researcher invite readers to provide constructive criticism and suggestions for future improvements.

This thesis was prepared as one of the requirements for completing undergraduate studies at Universitas Pasundan. The researcher hopes that this work can provide benefits and additional insights for readers, especially students of the English Study Program at Universitas Pasundan Bandung.

Bandung, March 2026

Muhamad Lutfi
NPM.197010015

Acknowledgment

The researcher expresses deep gratitude to all those who have played an important role in the researcher's campus life and in the completion of this research. The thanks are given to:

1. **Erik Rusmana, S.S., M.Hum.,** as the first supervisor who always provides direction and guidance to researchers in the process of preparing this thesis.
2. **Husni Thamrin, S.S., M.Hum.,** the Head of the English Department and also the researcher's second advisor.
3. **Budi Setiawan, S.Li., MH., M.Sn.,** the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Letters Pasundan University.
4. All the lecturers in the English Literature Department of Universitas Pasundan Bandung, who have enriched the researcher's academic life with wisdom, encouragement, and meaningful lessons
5. Eka Kurniawan is a writer who created masterpieces such as Novel Cantik Itu Luka well as various other works.
6. My mother, Ida Puspitasari, who tirelessly prays for me all the time.
7. My Father Tatang Samsudin who always gives me unwavering moral support
8. My Friend since Highschool Nadif Paturrohman, Reyhan M. Fadillah, Zein Nurzaman. who always accompanies me and is struggling to do assignment.

9. My best friends and comrades-in-arms, namely Nugraha Sebasthian, Zelpi Ade Septian, and Kms Irfan, who have always been loyal listeners to the author, supported the journey since first day in college
10. Tara Arts Game Indonesia & Gema Show Indo a Gaming content creator who always cheers me up when I feel stuck and exhausted while working on this thesis

With Love the Researcher

Approval of Publicity

The undersigned:

Name	:	Muhamad Lutfi
Student Number	:	197010015
Department	:	English Literature
Faculty	:	Arts and Letters

Allowing the English Literature Study Program of Universitas Pasundan to publish the researcher's paper entitled “Narrative Structure of Kurniawan’s Cantik Itu Luka” in the e-repository of Universitas Pasundan.

Bandung, March 2025

The Researcher

Muhamad Lutfi

NPM. 197010015

Abstract

This study examines the narrative structure and narrative techniques of Eka Kurniawan's novel Cantik Itu Luka using Gérard Genette's narratological framework. The findings show that the novel employs a non-linear structure through anachrony, particularly analepsis, along with variations in duration (scene, pause, summary) and frequency (singulative and anaphoric repetition), which create a layered and cyclical narrative. In terms of technique, the novel uses zero focalization and an extradiegetic-heterodiegetic voice with subsequent narration, allowing full access to characters' inner experiences. Overall, these elements contribute to the narrative complexity and reinforce themes of trauma and its recurring consequences.

Keywords: narrative structure, narrative technique, anachrony, focalization, Cantik Itu Luka, novel

Table of Contents

Declaration of Originality ..... **i**
Approval Page ..... **ii**
Dedication Page ..... **iii**
Preface ..... **iv**
Acknowledgment ..... **v**
Approval of Publicity ..... **vii**
Abstract ..... **viii**
Table of Contents ..... **ix**
List of Tables ..... **xi**
Chapter I Introduction **1**
1.1 Research Background 1
1.2 Identification of the Problem 5
1.3 Research Questions 5
1.4 Limitation of the Study 6
1.5 Objective of the Study 6
1.6 Significances of the study 6
Chapter II Novel, Narratology **8**
2.1 Previous Research 8
2.2 Literature and Novel as Genre of Literature 12
2.3 Gérard Genette's Narratology Theory 14
2.3.1 Narrative Tense 16
2.3.2 Mood 20
2.3.3 Voice 22
Chapter III Research Methodology **25**
3.1 Research Design 25
3.2 Sources of Data 26
3.3 Technique of Data Collection 26
3.4 Technique of Data Analysis 27
Chapter IV Data Analysis and Finding **29**

4.1 The Narrative Tense in The Kurniawan's Cantik Itu Luka 29
4.1.1 Narrative Order 30
4.1.2 Narrative Duration 65
4.1.3 Narrative Frequency 72
4.2 Narrative Mood 78
4.3 Narrative Voice 83
4.3.1 Time of Narrating 83
4.3.2 Person of Narrating 86
4.3.3 Narrative Level 87
4.4 Finding and Discussion 90
Chapter V Conclusion and Suggestions 95
5.1 Conclusion 95
5.2 Suggestions 97
Bibliography 99
Curriculum Vitae 101
Appendices 102

List of Tables

Table 1 Previous Research 2.1 8
Table 2 Narrative Order 4.1..... 31