

PANOPTICISM IN THE HUNGER GAMES PREQUELS



Intelligentia - Dignitas

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THESIS

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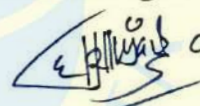
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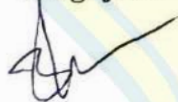
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Jakarta, 18th June 2026



Roudhatul Fadhilah Attaqy

PREFACE

This thesis was written to fulfill one of the requirements for bachelor degree in Universitas Neger Jakarta. Reading the corpus of this thesis, the Hunger Games prequel novel: *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* (2020), and *Sunrise on the Reaping* (2025) was such an exceptional experience. Its impact on young literature has been very significant that I have to choose these two novels as the data source. It was also an enrichment to talk about power and surveillance, especially Foucault's theory of Panopticism. In this era of digitalization and technological advancement, the risk of surveillance and being observed are close with us. Thus, I decided to talk about these topics, including the interesting dynamics and power-relation between the characters. Suzanne Collins never fails to deliver the relevant topics in an outstanding way. I look forward to the release of *Sunrise on the Reaping* the movie that will be premiered in theatres in November, 2026.

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ABSTRAK

Attaqy, Roudhatul Fadhillah, 2026. Panoptisme dalam Novel Prequel Hunger Games. Skripsi. Jakarta, Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni, Universitas Negeri Jakarta.

The Hunger Games adalah seri novel populer yang dirilis pada tahun 2008 hingga 2015 dan terdiri dari tiga novel serta empat adaptasi film. Setelah 12 tahun sejak trilogi tersebut, Suzanne Collins merilis seri prequel yang berkaitan dengan trilogi The Hunger Games. Pada tahun 2020, Collins merilis “The Ballad of the Songbirds and Snakes”. Lalu, pada tahun 2025, Collins merilis prequel kedua berjudul “The Sunrise on the Reaping”. Seri prequel dan trilogi the Hunger Games menitikberatkan topik terkait pengawasan dan bagaimana pengawasan menguatkan kuasa. Penelitian ini mengkaji Panoptikon (pengawasan) dan otoritas disipliner pada dua novel prequel the Hunger Games dengan dua variabel tambahan, yaitu: latar waktu dan kemajuan teknologi. Kedua variabel ini diperkenalkan untuk mengungkap bagaimana relasi antara kedua variabel dengan pengawasan pada kedua novel. Penelitian ini menggunakan analisis tekstual sebagai kerangka analisis, dan berfokus pada kumpulan data tekstual serta kerangka analisis yang spesifik. Dari total 153 sampel data, peneliti mengklasifikasikan dan memilah data tersebut dan menghasilkan 75 data utama serta 45 data tambahan. Data-data tersebut kemudian dianalisis menggunakan teori Panopticon oleh Foucault (1980). Temuan mengungkap banyaknya contoh pengawasan dalam novel prequel The Hunger Games. Dalam kedua novel tersebut, peneliti menemukan bahwa beberapa karakter mengalami pengawasan dan menyadari keberadaan pengawasan tersebut. Dengan demikian, karakter atau subjek pengawasan dapat menampilkan dua kemungkinan reaksi: menerima pandangan tersebut dan menginternalisasikannya, serta menyesuaikan diri dengan audiens atau pihak yang mengawasinya (termasuk upaya untuk mendapatkan keuntungan dari audiens); atau menolak pandangan tersebut, berusaha melawan narasi yang dibawa oleh pandangan tersebut. Pandangan yang diinternalisasi dapat menjadikan individu yang disiplin diri (*docile bodies*) sehingga semakin memperluas kekuasaan dan kendali Capitol (pemerintah). Bagian pembahasan juga membuktikan bahwa perkembangan zaman (linimasa dalam novel) memengaruhi kualitas dan kemajuan teknologi. Pihak Capitol memanfaatkan kemajuan teknologi sebagai alat untuk mendukung narasi dan ideologinya, khususnya melalui pengawasan sebagai salah satu cara pihak Capitol melanggengkan kuasanya.

Kata kunci: *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, Sunrise on the Reaping, Panoptikon, Foucault, pengawasan, kekuasaan disipliner, otoritas disipliner, perkembangan teknologi, latar waktu*

ABSTRACT

Attaqy, Roudhatul Fadhilah, 2026. Panopticism in the Hunger Games Prequels. Thesis: Jakarta, Department of English Literature, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Universitas Negeri Jakarta.

The Hunger Games is a popular series of novel that have been around from 2008 to 2015, with three novels and four movie adaptations. After 12 years of the trilogy's completion, Suzanne Collins finally released another series in relation to the Hunger Games trilogy. In 2020, Collins released “The Ballad of the Songbirds and Snakes” as one of the prequels to the Hunger Games trilogy series. In 2025, Collins released a second prequel to the trilogy, titled “The Sunrise on the Reaping”. The prequels and the trilogy itself emphasize the presence of surveillance and how it reinforces power. This research studies about the Panopticon (surveillance) and disciplinary authorities in the two prequels of the Hunger Games with two additional variables: time settings and advancement of technology. These variables were introduced to find out how the two variables relates to the surveillance in the novel. This research uses textual analysis as its analytic framework, as the research is going to circle around specific sets of textual data and specific framework of analysis. From total of 153 data samples, the researcher classified and filtered them with the result of 75 main data and 45 additional data. These data then were analyzed using the theory of Panopticon by Foucault (1980). The analysis identified that there were many instances of surveillance in the Hunger Games prequels novels. In the two novels, the researcher found that several characters experienced surveillance, and is aware of the surveillance. Thus, the characters or the subject of the surveillance may result in two possible reactions: the subject may accept the gaze and internalizing it, adjusting to the audience or the observer, including the attempt of benefiting from the audience; or the subject may also resist the gaze, attempting to challenge the narratives that is brought by the gaze. The internalized gaze may result in self-disciplinary people (docile bodies) that further expands the power and control of the Capitol (the government). The discussion further proves that the progression of times affects the quality and advancement of technology. The Capitol uses the advancement of technology as a tool to support its narratives and ideology, particularly through surveillance as one of its ways to prolong its power.

Keywords: *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, Sunrise on the Reaping, Panopticon, Foucault, surveillance, disciplinary power, disciplinary authorities, advancement of technology, time settings*