

**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOTHER IMAGE IN HIROMU ARAKAWA'S
"FULL METAL ALCHEMIST": A LACANIAN STUDY**

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A Bachelor of Arts Thesis presented to the Faculty of the Department of
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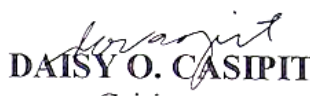
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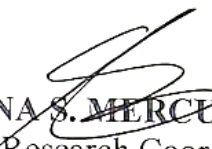
The undergraduate thesis entitled **THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOTHER IN THE JAPANESE ANIME SERIES "FULL METAL ALCHEMIST": A LACANIAN STUDY** prepared and submitted by **CHARINA DAGANG ACUAR**, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree in **BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE** is hereby approved and accepted.


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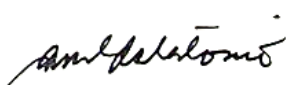

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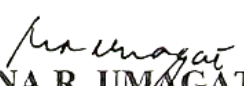
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ABSTRACT

ACUAR, CHARINA DAGANG, Bachelor of Arts in Language and Literature, Department of English and Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, May 2017. **THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOTHER IMAGE IN HIROMU ARAKAWA’S “FULL METAL ALCHEMIST”: A LACANIAN STUDY**

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The researcher discussed the findings of applying Jacques Lacan’s Psychoanalysis to a new medium of media, *Anime*. The study provide a careful explication in Lacan’s theory “Desire is the Desire of the Other” and Three Phases of Personality (1) Real Order, (2) Imaginary Order and (3) the Symbolic Order to determine the significance of the mother image in the story entitled *Full Metal Alchemist* created by Hiromu Arakawa. The characters development of personality showed in three different scenarios starting when their mother was still alive until she died. The death of the characters’ mother affects their underlying, preconception, desire, choices and actions. There are three mothers in the story in which they gave different strengths to the main characters in order for them to face the struggle of life on their own.

The mother figure in the story *Full Metal Alchemist* is indeed important in the characters fundamental perspective in life that has great influence in a child’s development of personality that constructed into Lacan’s theory *Three Phases of Personality*. Thus, many implications were found, the characters desire to be with their mother became their driving force in the entire series. However, the character “Homunculus” portrays the concept of unloving mothers in contrary to Lacan’s theory.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

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. This thesis is dedicated to the researcher's mother, **Lani D. Acuar**, who always supports her and encourage her even in her worse days. She is very much thankful for having a wonder mom, who will give up everything just for her child.

This thesis would be impossible without her super dad **Edgardo Acuar**, who has given her the opportunity of an education from the best institutions and the support throughout her life.

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- **The Researcher**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
TITLE PAGE	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA	iv
DEDICATION	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
Chapter 1 THE PROBLEM AND ITS BACKGROUND	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Significance of the Study	6
1.3 Statement of the Problem	8
1.4 Scope and Delimitation	9
1.5 Theoretical /Conceptual Framework	
1.5.1 Theoretical Framework	10
1.5.2 Conceptual Framework	12
1.6 Definition of Terms	14
Chapter 2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND STUDIES	
2.1 Conceptual Literature	
2.1.1 Anime	15
2.1.2 Author	16
2.1.3 Full metal Alchemist	17

2.2 Related Literature

2.2.1 Jacques Lacan Psychoanalysis	18
2.2.2 The Imaginary, Symbolic and Real	19
2.2.3 Desire is the Desire of the 'Other'	20
2.2.4 Mother is the first 'Other'	21
2.2.5 The Experience of Lack	23
2.2.6 Oedipal Complex, Castration, Name of the Father	24
2.2.7 The Iceberg Principle	25
2.2.8 The Absence of the Mother	27
2.2.9 Related Studies	29

Chapter 3 METHODS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 Research Design	32
3.2 Instrument	
3.3 Procedures	
Phase I	
Phase II	33
Phase III	

Chapter 4 PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.1 The Characters' Phases of Personality	
4.1.1 Real Order	35
4.1.2 Imaginary Order	38
4.1.3 Symbolic Order	42

4.2 The Aftermath of the Characters lost	
4.2.1 Preconception	46
4.2.2 Desires	47
4.2.3 Choices	48
4.2.4 Actions	49
4.3 The Importance of the Mother Image	
4.3.1 Trisha Elric	51
4.3.2 Izumi	55
4.3.3 Rose	57
4.4 Symbolism	59
 Chapter 5 SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	
5.1 Summary	63
5.2 Findings	64
5.3 Conclusions	65
5.4 Recommendations	67
 REFERENCES	
A. Books	66
B. Journal/Articles	69
C. Website	70
D. Film	71

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX		PAGE
A	Jacques Lacan	72
B	Jacques Lacan's Biography	73
C	Jacques Lacan's Other Works	74
D	Hiromu Arakawa	75
E	Hiromu Arakawa's Biography	76
F	Works and Awards	77

LIST OF FIGURES

Conceptual Paradigm

12

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