



**THE CONCEPT OF MEMENTO MORI AS IMAGE AND  
SYMBOL IN DRAGONFORCE'S SONG LYRIC  
*VALLEY OF THE DAMNED***

a final project

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by

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## ABSTRACT

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*Memento Mori* is a kind of mental acceptance of and conviction in the truth that we will finally die, for mortal is one of human nature. As it comes once in lifetime, people generally do not pay attention to it. This study highlights this concern because mortality is the most undeniable matter that human, even every living being. One way in reminding people about this concern is through literary work. In this study, the literary work which is researched is a song lyric entitled Valley of the Damned. This song contains the message of *memento mori*, which is known every culture, but often becomes something that people commonly not willing to discuss, even to remember.

In analyzing the song lyric, the researcher put two main problems to be answered. First, how is the concept *Memento Mori* revealed through image and figure of speech in the song lyric? Second, how does the song lyric symbolize the concept of *Memento Mori*?

The researcher used a qualitative method in conducting this research. Since the method is qualitative, the form of data were in the form of words, phrases, sentences, etc. Data collection was done through certain steps. The first step was repeated reading, reading the text carefully to understand the deep meaning of the text. The second step was identifying the deep meaning as the raw data. The third was observing the raw data and correlating it with the concept of *memento mori* and figure of speech.

The result of the study shows that the song lyric *Valley of the Damned* delivers the message of *memento mori*, which is shown through image, figure of speech, and symbolism. *Valley of the Damned* reveals the correlation between the awareness of being mortal and the animating force within human's mind and heart through the expressions, words and phrases, in most lines. Remembering one's own death would rouses one's enthusiasm in acquiring his desires when it is accompanied with proper understanding about death and his own desires. Otherwise, he could probably condemn himself for the long hard way in bringing his dreams into real.