

ABSTRACT

Existentialism as Reflected in the Web Novel *Under the Oak Tree*

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*This research discusses the application of existentialism according to Jean-Paul Sartre in the web novel titled *Under the Oak Tree* by Suji Kim. Qualitative research methods are used to explain the characters, themes, and conflicts that occur in the story. The main focus of this research is how the main characters in the web novel face freedom, responsibility, alienation, and the meaning of life in the search for identity. Their decisions reflect the principles of Sartre's existentialism, which also deeply shows the concept of human existence in search of meaning in an uncertain world. The results of this study provide insights into existential experiences in the context of modern literary works depicted through Maxi's journey as a profound main character, facing fears and doubts to find happiness. Interactions with other characters, such as Riftan, show the concept of searching for the meaning of life. The theme of freedom and choice emerges as an important aspect in this story because every decision Maxi makes has significant consequences in her life. The author tries to invite readers to think about the meaning of life and the importance of the right to be responsible for every choice made.*

Keyword: Existentialism, Sartre, Web novel, Under the Oak Tree