

ABSTRACT

This thesis explores post-traumatic stress disorder experienced by Salama Khassab, the main character in the novel *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow* (2022) by Zoulfa Katouh. This study aims to uncover the symptoms, causes, and effects on Salama's character. It uses a qualitative method with descriptive approach, supported by Judith L. Herman's theory of post-traumatic stress disorder. The result reveal that Salama experiences intrusion symptoms, hyperarousal symptoms, and numbing symptoms. The causes include exposure to armed conflict, loss of family members, and work demands. The effects are evident in Salama's sleep quality, worsening mental health, and avoidance behaviors. This study concludes that the novel not only portrays the reality of war but also provides an in-depth depiction of individual psychological trauma, thereby enhancing reader's understanding of post-traumatic stress disorder in a humanitarian context.

Keywords: post-traumatic, symptoms, causes, effects, Syrian war