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CONCLUSION

In *For The Terms of His Natural Life*, Marcus Clarke incorporates various gothic elements into characterizing the male and female characters, adding depth and complexity to the narrative. One of the gothic elements that stands out is the depiction of male characters as tormented and haunted figures. Rufus Dawes, the protagonist, embodies this archetype as he endures the injustices of the penal system and the psychological torment of being unlawfully convicted. His journey through a harsh prison colony reflects the gothic theme of an individual's struggle against oppressive forces.

On the other hand, female characters in novels often embody the gothic trope of the damsel in distress. Sylvia Vickers, Rufus Dawes' lover, is portrayed as a vulnerable and innocent woman trapped in a world of cruelty and violence. Marcus Clarke weaves Gothic elements into his depiction of female characters to create an atmosphere of mystery, suspense, and psychological suspense throughout the novel. These elements contribute to the Gothic sensibility of "For the Term of Its Natural Life." In Marcus Clarke's novel "For the Terms of His Natural Life," Gothic elements are not limited to the female characters; they also feature prominently in depictions of male characters. The novel is rich in Gothic themes and allusions, contributing to its dark and atmospheric narrative. Marcus Clarke skillfully

incorporates Gothic elements into the male characters of "For the Terms of His Natural Life," contributing to the novel's dark and suspenseful atmosphere. The linkage of these elements to broader themes of justice, oppression, and survival created a compelling Gothic narrative that endures as a classic of Australian literature. Apart from that, supernatural gothic elements are subtly present in this novel. The supernatural element adds a spooky and mysterious atmosphere to the story.

Overall, I argue that by using the gothic elements, the author Gothic emphasizes the aesthetic qualities of his novel and highlights the atmospheres of the settings and his character's personalities: light and darkness, hope and despair, and freedom and captivity. Furthermore, the elements of light and darkness in the character's hope, despair, freedom, and captivity unite with the story's narrative. The gothic elements found in the male and female characters in *For The Terms of His Natural Life* contribute to the novel's dark and atmospheric feel. They address themes of oppression, injustice, and the struggle for freedom, creating a rich and captivating reading experience. Using gothic elements, the author emphasizes the aesthetic qualities of his novel and highlights the atmospheres of Australian settings and his character's personalities interestingly. Light and darkness, hope and despair, and freedom and captivity. Furthermore, the elements of light and darkness in the character's hope, despair, freedom, and captivity unite with the story's narrative.