

**REIMAGINING FEMINISM IN TAYLOR SWIFT'S LYRICS:
A DUAL ANALYSIS THROUGH CULTURAL AND RADICAL LENSES**



An Undergraduate Thesis

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree

Zahrotun Nabilah

2009020018

**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATION
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH PURWOKERTO**

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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that this undergraduate thesis entitled **“REIMAGINING FEMINISM IN TAYLOR SWIFT’S LYRICS: A DUAL ANALYSIS THROUGH CULTURAL AND RADICAL LENSES”** by Zahrotun Nabilah has been approved by the advisor and the Head of English Department to be examined by the Board of Examiners.

Purwokerto, 30 December 2024

Head of English Department

Advisor



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REIMAGINING FEMINISM IN TAYLOR SWIFT'S LYRICS: A DUAL ANALYSIS THROUGH CULTURAL AND RADICAL LENSES

An Undergraduate Thesis

By

Zahrotun Nabilah

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has been examined and approved by the Board of Examiners as one of the requirements for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree on January 24th, 2025

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I, the undersigned researcher of the undergraduate thesis entitled **“REIMAGINING FEMINISM IN TAYLOR SWIFT’S LYRICS: A DUAL ANALYSIS THROUGH CULTURAL AND RADICAL LENSES”**, hereby attest and affirm that the material in this thesis has not been previously submitted and published for a degree in any universities, and to the best of my knowledge, any referenced-quotations are shown in the arrangement of citations and bibliography. If later it can be revealed that this undergraduate thesis contains partly or wholly plagiarized pieces of other intellectual works of any kinds, the researcher will be ready to accept the sanction.

Purwokerto, 29 December 2024



Zahrotun Nabilah

MOTTO

Consistency and hard work will yield results that are worth the effort.



DEDICATION

This undergraduate thesis is dedicated to my beloved parents, who have always supported my every step and decision.



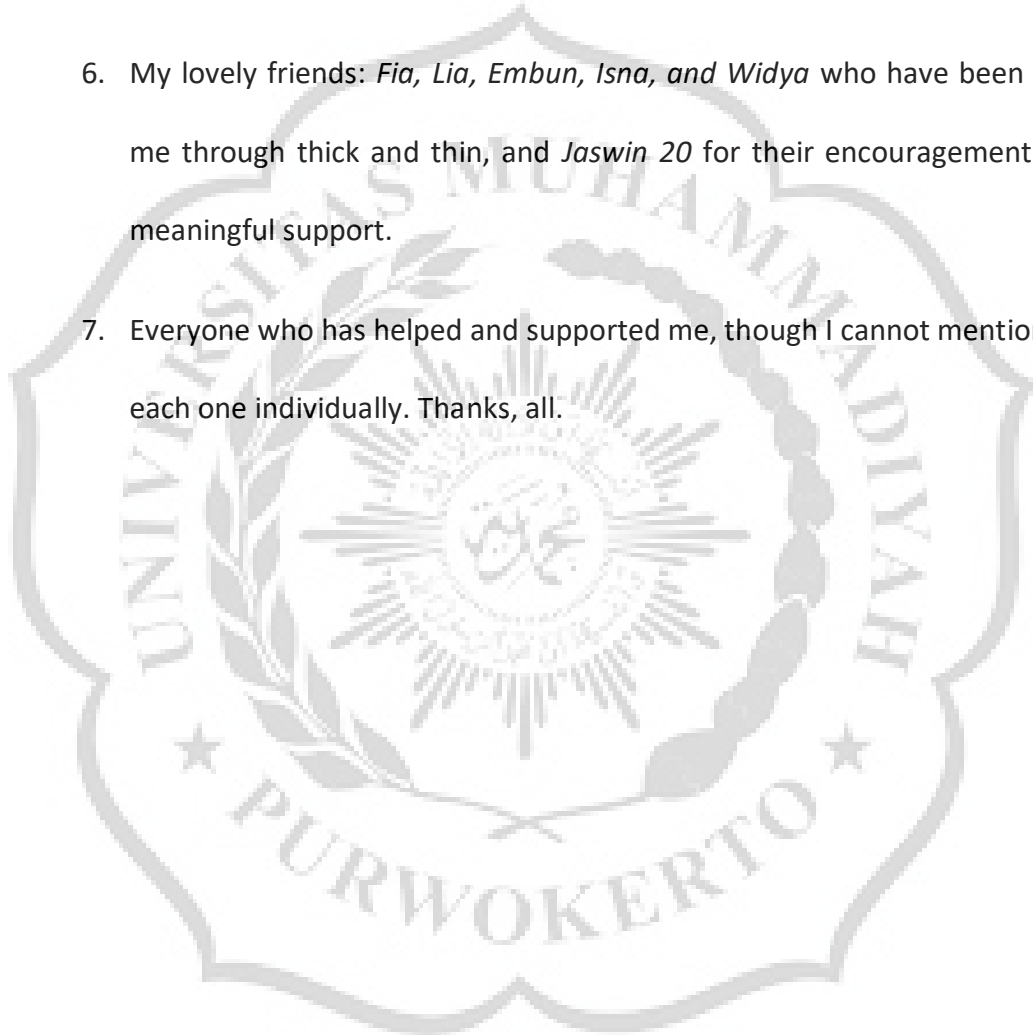
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamiin, all praise be to Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala, and shalawat and greetings to Rasulullah Shallallahu 'Alaihi wa Sallam. By His grace, I was able to complete this thesis. Shalawat and salam may always be poured out to the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who remains an eternal role model.

I realize that I cannot complete this final project without the help of other parties. Many parties have helped me during the writing of this final project and it is impossible to mention them one by one. However, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all parties so that this final project can be completed properly. Therefore, I would like to express my appreciation to all of them, especially to:

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7. Everyone who has helped and supported me, though I cannot mention each one individually. Thanks, all.



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Pada tanggal : 29 Desember 2024

Yang menyatakan,



Zahrotun Nabilah

ABSTRACT

Zahrotun Nabilah. 2024: *Reimagining Feminism in Taylor Swift's Song Lyrics: A Dual Analysis through Cultural and Radical Lenses*. Bachelor of Literature Thesis, English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Humanities and Communication, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

Feminism is a social movement aims to achieve gender equality, exploitation, and oppression. This study aims to (1) show representations of love, romance, and relationships in Swift's songs that reflect feminist ideals and perspectives, and (2) illustrate Swift's lyrics that challenge traditional gender norms and stereotypes through cultural and radical lenses.

This research uses a qualitative descriptive method with the approach of Mary Daly's Radical Theory and Carol Gilligan's Cultural Theory to analyze gender norms and stereotypes in the songs. The data used in this thesis are 5 Taylor Swift songs with the titles 'The Man', 'Mad Woman', 'Mean', 'You Belong with Me', and 'Love Story'.

The results show that Taylor Swift's songs reflect the inequality and oppression experienced by women in a patriarchal society. Her lyrics challenge traditional gender norms and stereotypes as an attempt by the author to voice the rights of women to have equal opportunities and rights with men in all aspects of life. Songs such as "Love Story" and "You Belong with Me", reflect feminist themes relating to women's courage in choosing relationships, facing social challenges, and determining their own path in life. Furthermore, through lyrics such as "The Man", "Mad Woman" and "Mean", Taylor Swift explores more radical themes, critiquing patriarchal structures and traditional gender norms.

Keywords: patriarchy, popular culture, pop music, Taylor Swift

INTISARI

Zahrotun Nabilah. 2024: *Menata Ulang Feminisme dalam Lirik Lagu Taylor Swift: Analisis Ganda melalui Lensa Budaya dan Radikal*. Skripsi Sarjana Sastra, Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya dan Komunikasi, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto.

Feminisme adalah sebuah gerakan sosial yang bertujuan untuk mencapai kesetaraan gender, eksploitasi, dan penindasan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk (1) menunjukkan representasi cinta, romantisme, dan hubungan dalam lagu-lagu Swift yang merefleksikan cita-cita dan perspektif feminis, dan (2) mengilustrasikan lirik-lirik Swift yang menantang norma-norma dan stereotip gender tradisional melalui lensa budaya dan radikal.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan pendekatan Teori Radikal Mary Daly dan Teori Kultural Carol Gilligan untuk menganalisis norma dan stereotip gender dalam lagu-lagu tersebut. Data yang digunakan dalam skripsi ini adalah 5 lagu Taylor Swift dengan judul 'The Man', 'Mad Woman', 'Mean', 'You Belong with Me', dan 'Love Story'.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa lagu-lagu Taylor Swift merefleksikan ketidaksetaraan dan penindasan yang dialami oleh perempuan dalam masyarakat patriarki. Lirik-liriknya menantang norma-norma dan stereotip gender tradisional sebagai upaya penulis untuk menyuarakan hak-hak perempuan agar memiliki kesempatan dan hak yang sama dengan laki-laki dalam segala aspek kehidupan. Lagu-lagu seperti "Love Story" dan "You Belong with Me", merefleksikan tema-tema feminis yang berkaitan dengan keberanian wanita dalam memilih hubungan, menghadapi tantangan sosial, dan menentukan jalan hidupnya sendiri. Lebih jauh lagi, melalui lirik seperti "The Man", "Mad Woman", dan "Mean", Taylor Swift mengeksplorasi tema-tema yang lebih radikal, mengkritik struktur patriarki dan norma-norma gender tradisional.

Kata kunci: patriarki, budaya populer, musik pop, Taylor Swift

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