

**REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN  
AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM  
“IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK “  
An Undergraduate Thesis**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements to Obtain  
*Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Literature Department in  
Faculty of Literature, Culture, and Communication  
Universitas Ahmad Dahlan



By:

**Puspa Suci Kartikasari**

**1700026106**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF LITERATURE, CULTURE, AND COMMUNICATION  
UNIVERSITAS AHMAD DAHLAN YOGYAKARTA  
2024**

**APPROVAL PAGE**

**APPROVAL PAGE**

**REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING  
AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM  
“IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK”**

**AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of Requirements to Obtain *Sarjana Sastra*  
degree in English Literature Department Faculty of Literature, Culture, and  
Communication Universitas Ahmad Dahlan

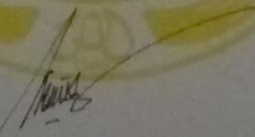
By

**PUSPA SUCI KARTIKASARI**

**1700026106**

Approved by the Consultant on June 13, 2024

Consultant

  
**Dr. Kasivarno, M.Hum.**

**NIPM. 19531203 201901 1100519463**

RATIFICATION PAGE

**RATIFICATION PAGE**  
**REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING**  
**AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM**  
**“IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK”**

An Undergraduate Thesis

By

PUSPA SUCI KARTIKASARI

1700026106

This Undergraduate Thesis has been examined on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and has been accepted as one of the requirements to obtain *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Literature Department Faculty of Literature, Culture, and Communication Universitas Ahmad Dahlan

The Board of Examiners Consists of

1. Chairperson : Dr. Kasiyarno, M.Hum.
2. First Examiner : NIZAM AHSANI, M.Hum, Ph.D., Drs
3. Second Examiner : Ulaya Ahdiani, S.S., M.Hum.

Yogyakarta, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

English Literature Department Faculty of Literature, Culture, and Communication  
The Dean



Wahjono, S.S., M.A. Ph.D.  
NIPM. 197912182003091110900733

## STATEMENT OF WORK ORIGINALITY

### STATEMENT OF WORK ORIGINALITY

Name : Puspa Suci Kartikasari  
Student Number : 1700026106  
Department : Sastra Inggris  
Faculty : Literature, Culture, and Communication  
University : Universitas Ahmad Dahlan

Herewith, I state that all these opinions, statements, analysis, that I have written in this graduate thesis entitled REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM "IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK" are my original work. During the process, I optimal conducted my own research with the help of some references and suggestions. Every word and statement taken from these references are treated as quotation and experts in which the names of the authors and publishers are stated. If any claim related to this analysis that I made persists in the future, I would be fully responsible for my clarification.

Yogyakarta, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

  
Puspa Suci Kartikasari

## PERNYATAAN

### PERNYATAAN

Nama : Puspa Suci Kartikasari  
Nim : 1700026106  
Program Pendidikan : Sastra Inggris  
Fakultas : Sastra, Budaya, dan Komunikasi  
Universitas : Universitas Ahmad Dahlan

Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa karya ilmiah berjudul REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM "IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK" ini adalah hasil pekerjaan saya sendiri, dan sepanjang pengetahuan saya, tidak berisi materi yang telah ditulis oleh orang lain sebagai persyaratan penyelesaian studi di perguruan tinggi ini atau perguruan tinggi lain kecuali pada bagian-bagian tertentu yang saya ambil sebagai acuan dengan mengikuti tata cara dan etika penulisan karya ilmiah yang lazim. Apabila ternyata bahwa pernyataan ini tidak benar, hal tersebut sepenuhnya menjadi tanggung jawab saya dan saya bersedia mendapatkan sanksi akademis apabila di kemudian hari penulisan karya ilmiah ini merupakan hasil plagiarisme.

Yogyakarta, 13 Juni 2024



Puspa Suci Kartikasari

## PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT

*Lampiran 1*

### PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : PUSPA SUCI KARTIKASARI  
NIM : 1700026106  
Email : [puspa1700026106@webmail.uad.ac.id](mailto:puspa1700026106@webmail.uad.ac.id)  
Fakultas : Sastra, Budaya, dan Komunikasi  
Prodi : Sastra Inggris

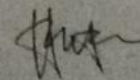
Judul tugas akhir : REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM "IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK"

Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa:

1. Hasil karya yang saya serahkan ini adalah asli dan belum pernah diajukan untuk mendapat gelar kesarjanaan baik di Universitas Ahmad Dahlan maupun di institusi pendidikan lainnya.
2. Hasil karya saya ini bukan saduran/terjemahan melainkan merupakan gagasan, rumusan, dan hasil pelaksanaan penelitian/implementasi saya sendiri, tanpa bantuan pihak lain, kecuali arahan pembimbing dan narasumber penelitian.
3. Hasil karya saya ini merupakan hasil revisi terakhir setelah diujikan yang telah diketahui dan disetujui oleh pembimbing.
4. Dalam karya saya ini tidak terdapat karya atau pendapat yang telah ditulis atau dipublikasikan orang lain kecuali yang digunakan sebagai acuan dalam naskah dengan menyebutkan nama pengarang dan dicantumkan dalam daftar pustaka.

Pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya. Apabila di kemudian hari terbukti ada penyimpangan dan ketidakbenaran dalam pernyataan ini maka saya bersedia menerima sanksi akademik berupa pencabutan gelar yang telah diperoleh karena karya sastra ini, serta sanksi lain yang sesuai dengan ketentuan yang berlaku di Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.

Yogyakarta, 13 Juni 2024



Puspa Suci Kartikasari

## PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN AKSES

### Lampiran 2

#### PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN AKSES

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : PUSPA SUCI KARTIKASARI

NIM : 1700026106

Email : [puspa1700026106@webmail.uad.ac.id](mailto:puspa1700026106@webmail.uad.ac.id)

Fakultas : Sastra, Budaya, dan Komunikasi

Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

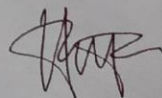
Judul tugas akhir : REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM "IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK"

Dengan ini saya menyerahkan hak *sepenuhnya* kepada Perpustakaan Universitas Ahmad Dahlan untuk menyimpan, mengatur akses serta melakukan pengelolaan terhadap karya saya ini dengan mengacu pada ketentuan akses tugas akhir elektronik sebagai berikut

Saya **mengijinkan** karya tersebut diunggah ke dalam Repository Perpustakaan Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.

Demikian pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

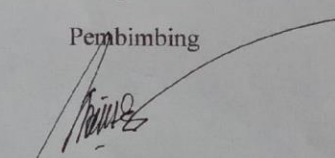
Yogyakarta, 13 Juni 2024



Puspa Suci Kartikasari

Mengetahui,

Pembimbing



Dr. Kasiyarno, M.Hum.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

All praises are due to Allah SWT, the Most Beneficent, and Most Gracious. The writer testifies there is no God but Allah, and testifies that Muhammad SAW is His messenger. Without His power and help, the writer is not able to accomplish this undergraduate thesis.

In accomplishing this thesis, the researcher is grateful to many people who helped her. Therefore, she would like to say her great thanks to:

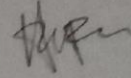
1. Prof. Dr. Muchlas, M. T., as the Rector of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.
2. Wajiran, S.S., M.A, Ph.D., as the Dean of Faculty of Literature, Culture, Communication of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.
3. Drs. Maftukin, M.Hum., as the Head of English Literature Department of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.
4. Dr. Kasiyarno, M.Hum. as my thesis advisors who has been patient and willing to spend time, thoughts, energy and provide support until this thesis has been completed
5. All the lecturers of English Letters Department, Faculty of Literature, Culture, and Communication of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan for the guidance and direction in her study.
6. All employes of Universitas Ahmad Dahlan who helped her in administration affairs.
7. All of her friends of her friends in Universitas Ahmad Dahlan.
8. All of her friends in High School.
9. All of her friends in Elementary School.

Finally, the researcher is aware that this thesis is far from perfection. Therefore, any suggestions to this thesis better are welcomed. The researcher hopes that this research will give contribution to develop English studies and can be continued in the future.



Yogyakarta, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The researcher



Puspa Suci  
Kartikasari

## **MOTTO**

**“Aquiris quodcumque rapis”**

**“Allah tidak akan mengubah keadaan jika kita tidak berusaha untuk berubah”**

## DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

Allah SWT and Rasulullah SAW. All praise is due to Allah SWT, and may peace and blessing be upon His messenger, the Prophet Rasulullah Muhammad SAW.

Myself, Puspa Suci, who always tries to keep getting up after falling many times.  
Thank you for surviving.

My beloved parents, Mr. Eko Wahjono and Mrs. Ambar Kustini, in the hope of a better future. I would say thank you for the uninterrupted support and prayers. Thank you for many things. I am grateful to have you as my parents, Saranghae Bapak, Mama. May Allah SWT always protect you. Aamiin.

My beloved friends, Sefni Yuswiyah, Kukuh Eka Indarsyah, Citra Desti Tania, Galuh Prana Shinta. Thank you for all the positive things that are given, helping each other, supporting each other, and inspiring each other.

My beloved best friends, Dinda Amelia and Sukma Ayu. Thank you for helping me and always giving me great support, and thanks for making my college life wonderful.

Thank you to Mr. Grady always helps me to correct my English and improve my grammar. Even though I just met you, i feel comfortable.

Thank you to my friends class of 2018, Tania Elka Velia and Lidia Putri Pamungkas who always remind me to finish my studies quickly. And finally I do it.

Special thanks also goes to people that I can't mention one by one, who always gave me motivation and never give up to support me in finishing this undergraduate thesis.

THANK YOU!

## TABLE OF CONTENT

### Table of Contents

APPROVAL PAGE .....	ii
RATIFICATION PAGE .....	iii
STATEMENT OF WORK ORIGINALITY .....	iv
PERNYATAAN .....	v
PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT .....	vi
PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN AKSES .....	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	viii
MOTTO .....	x
DEDICATION .....	xi
TABLE OF CONTENT .....	xii
ABSTRACT.....	xiii
INTISARI .....	xv
INTRODUCTION .....	1
A. Background of Choosing the Subject.....	1
B. Scope of the study .....	3
C. Problem of Formulation .....	3
D. Objective of the study (Tujuan Studi).....	4
E. Review of related studies .....	4
F. Method Of Research .....	6
G. Presentation .....	7
CHAPTER II.....	9
THEORETICAL APPROACH AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK .....	9
A. Theoretical Approach.....	9
<b>1. Psychological Theory</b> .....	9
<b>2. Sociological Approach</b> .....	11
CHAPTER III .....	16
FINDING AND ANALYSIS.....	16
WORK CITED.....	32

**REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN A  
AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM**

**“IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK”**

**Puspa Suci Kartikasari**

**1700026106**

**ABSTRACT**

Racism is a complex social phenomenon that has garnered significant attention in social and humanitarian research over time. Entitled "REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN AMERICAN AS SEEN IN THE FILM “IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK," this study aims to delve into the fundamental aspects of this issue and its repercussions on individuals, groups, and society at large.

Employing qualitative methodology, primary data is sourced from If Beale Street Could Talk, while supplementary information is gathered from various sources such as literature, journals, and online resources. Utilizing both psychological and sociological approaches, the research employs racism theory to dissect the unfavorable portrayal of black individuals depicted in the film. Furthermore, the researcher shed light on the diverse emotional, cognitive, and behavioral reactions stemming from encounters with racism, including feelings of anger, decision-making processes, and psychological stress.

This film offers a moving description of the effects of racism and social injustice against Black people through rich and evocative imagery. In addition, the movie shows how resilient, hopeful, and loving individuals can be while confronting injustice and working for equality, in

addition to portraying the hardship that Black people endure. In addition to being funny, "If Beale Street Could Talk" makes viewers consider and pose pertinent contemporary societal issues.

*Keywords: Racism, Struggle, Psychological impact, If Beale Street Could Talk*

**REPRESENTATION OF BLACK PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM IN A  
AMERICA AS SEEN IN THE FILM**

**“IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK”**

**Puspa Suci Kartikasari**

**1700026106**

**INTISARI**

Rasisme adalah fenomena sosial yang sangat kompleks dan telah lama menjadi focus perhatian dalam studi sosial dan kemanusiaan. Penelitian ini berjudul REPRESENTASI MASYARAKAT KULIT HITAM MELAWAN RASISME DI AMERIKA SEPERTI TERLIHAT DALAM FILM IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK. Tujuan utama penelitian ini adalah untuk menggali aspek-aspek kunci dari fenomena ini dan dampaknya pada individu, kelompok, dan Masyarakat secara keseluruhan.

Dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Data utama diambil dari film If Beale Street Could Talk, sedangkan data sekunder diambil dari buku, jurnal, dan internet. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan psikologis dan sosiologis. Dalam penelitian ini menggunakan teori rasisme, karena dalam film ini terdapat citra yang sangat negatif sekali untuk orang kulit hitam. Para peneliti juga menyoroti berbagai respon emosional, kognitif, dan perilaku yang muncul sebagai akibat dari pengalaman rasisme, termasuk marah, Keputusan, dan stress psikologis.

Melalui penggambaran yang mendalam dan kuat. Film ini menyajikan gambaran yang menyentuh tentang konsekuensi dari rasisme dan ketidakadilan sosial terhadap orang

kulit hitam. Selain itu film ini tidak hanya menggambarkan tentang penderitaan yang dialami orang kulit hitam tetapi juga menggambarkan tentang ketahanan, harapan dan cinta sebagai bentuk bentuk kekuatan orang kulit hitam dalam menghadapi ketidakadilan dan kesetaraan. *If Beale Street Could Talk* tidak hanya menghibur, tetapi juga menggugah pemirsa untuk merenungkan dan mempertanyakan masalah-masalah sosial yang relevan hingga saat ini.

*Keywords: Racism, Struggle, Psychological impact, If Beale Street Could Talk*