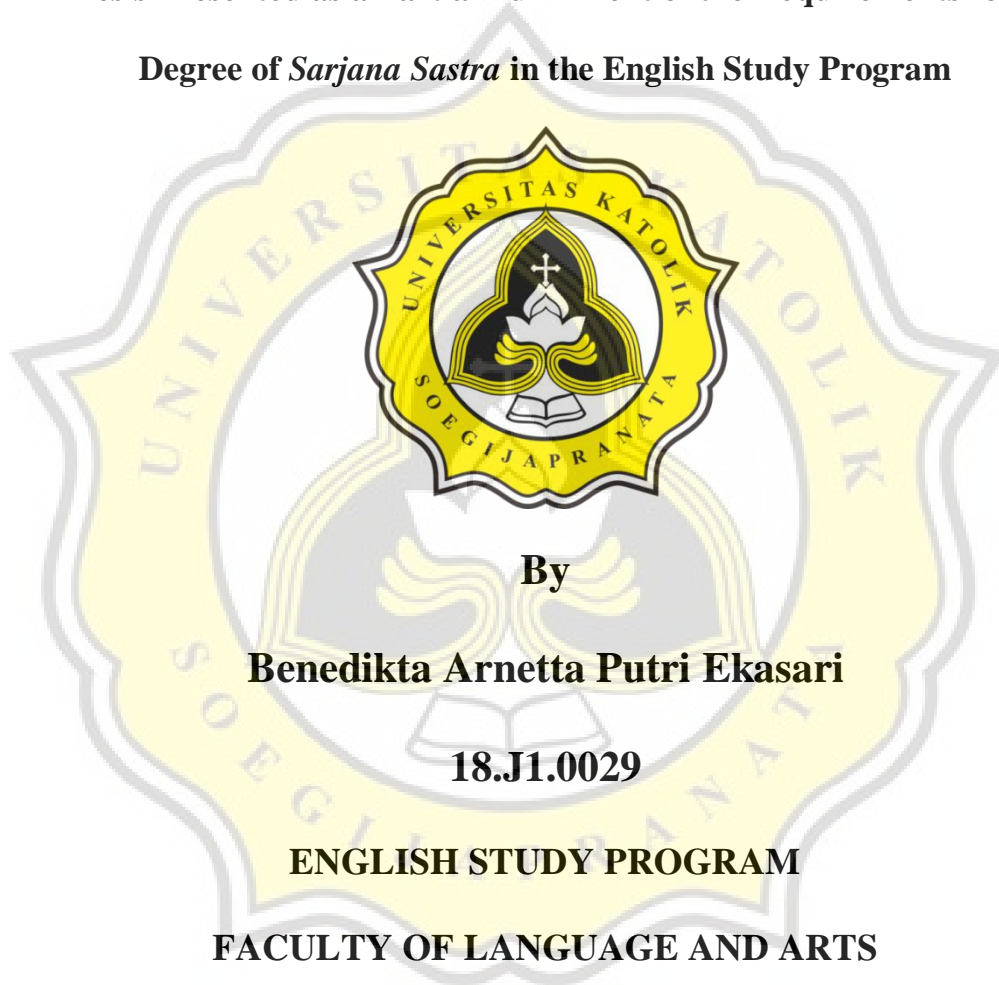


**WOMEN'S ROLES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY  
JAVANESE SOCIETY AS REPRESENTED IN  
*RARA MENDUT* NOVEL**

**A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* in the English Study Program**



**By**

**Benedikta Arnetta Putri Ekasari**

**18.J1.0029**

**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM**

**FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS**

**SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**

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## STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY

Yang bertanda tangan dibawah ini:

Nama : Benedikta Arnetta Putri Ekasari

NIM : 18.J1.0029

Progdi : Sastra Inggris

Fakultas : Fakultas Bahasa & Seni

Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa Laporan Tugas Akhir dengan judul *Wome's Roles in The Seventeenth Century Javanese Society as Represented in Mangunwijaya's Rara Mendut* Novel tersebut bebas plagiasi. Akan tetapi bila terbukti melakukan plagiasi maka bersedia menerima sanksi sesuai dengan ketentuan yang berlaku.

Semarang, 20 Januari 2023

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Benedikta Arnetta

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Judul Tugas Akhir: : WOMENS ROLES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY JAVANESE  
SOCIETY AS REPRESENTED IN RARA MENDUT NOVEL

Diajukan oleh : BENEDIKTA ARNETTA PUTRI EKASARI

NIM : 18.J1.0029

Tanggal disetujui : 20 Januari 2023

Telah setuju oleh

Pembimbing 1 : Angelika Riyandari S.S., M.A.,Ph.D

Pembimbing 2 : B Retang Wohangara S.S., M.Hum.

Penguji 1 : Dr. Dra. Ekawati M. Dukut M.Hum.

Penguji 2 : B Retang Wohangara S.S., M.Hum.

Penguji 3 : Angelika Riyandari S.S., M.A.,Ph.D

Ketua Program Studi : Dra. Cecilia Tittiek Murniati M.A., Ph.D

Dekan : G. M. Adhyanggono S.S., M.A., PhD

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A THESIS APPROVAL

**WOMEN'S ROLES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY  
JAVANESE SOCIETY AS REPRESENTED IN  
*RARA MENDUT* NOVEL**

By

**Benedikta Arnetta Putri Ekasari**

**18.J1.0029**

Approved by,

**Angelika Riyandari, Ph.D**

Date

Major Sponsor

**Semarang, December 02,2022**

**B. Retang Wohangara, S.S., M.Hum**

Date

Co-Sponsor

**Semarang, January 03,2022**

A thesis defended in front of the Board of Examiners on 20 January

2023 and

is declared acceptable

**BOARD OF EXAMINERS**

**First Examiner : Dr. Dra. Ekawati M. Dukut, M.Hum**

**Second Examiner : B. Retang Wohangara, S.S., M.Hum**

**Third Examiner : Angelika Riyandari, Ph.D**

**Semarang, 20 January 2023**

**Faculty of Language and  
Arts**

**G.M Adhyanggono, M.A, Ph.D**

**NPP. 058.1.1999.225**

**HALAMAN PERNYATAAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK  
KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS**

Yang bertanda tangan dibawah ini:

Nama : Benedikta Arnetta Putri Ekasari

Program Studi : Sastra Inggris

Fakultas : Fakultas Bahasa & Seni

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Benedikta Arnetta

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Semarang, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023



Benedikta Arnetta



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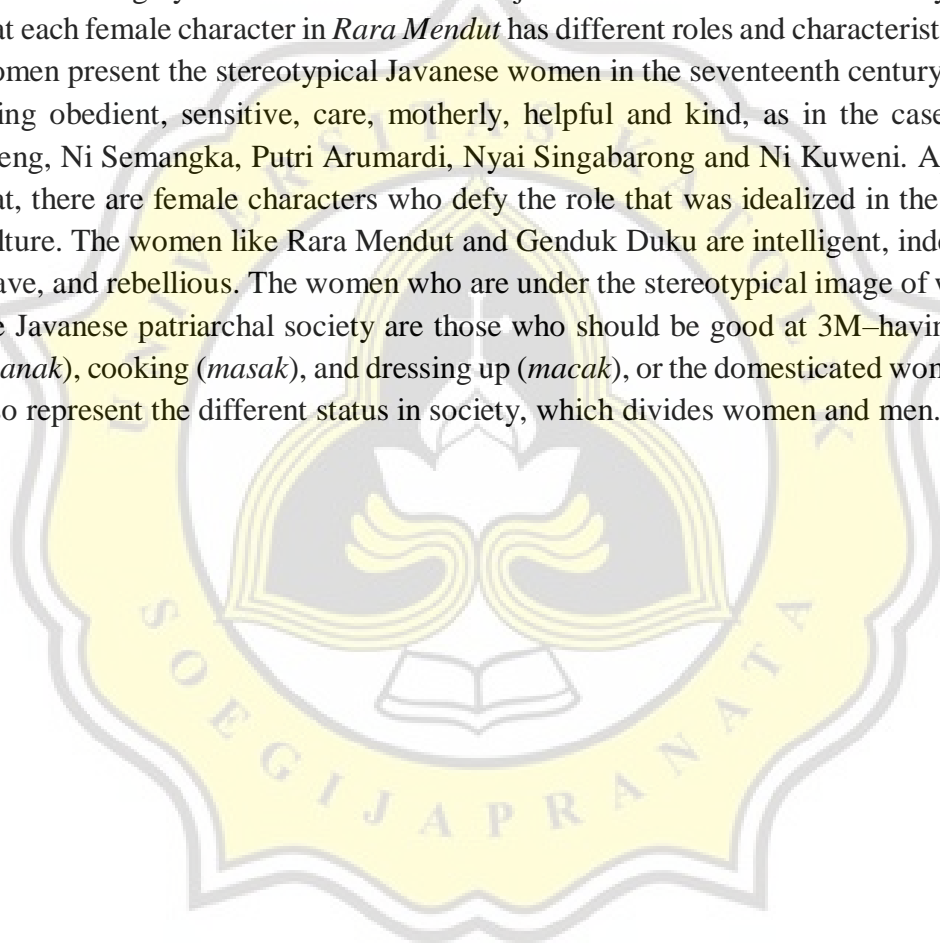
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## ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the female characters in the novel *Rara Mendut* by Y.B. Mangunwijaya. Applying the theory of feminine characteristics and women's roles in Javanese culture, this qualitative study obtains data in the form of words and sentences that describe the women's characteristics and roles, as well as how the Javanese society shapes the women's characteristics and roles. The data was collected by reading the novel thoroughly and relevant books and journals. The results of the study indicate that each female character in *Rara Mendut* has different roles and characteristics. Some women present the stereotypical Javanese women in the seventeenth century, namely, being obedient, sensitive, care, motherly, helpful and kind, as in the case of Nyai Ajeng, Ni Semangka, Putri Arumardi, Nyai Singabarong and Ni Kuweni. Apart from that, there are female characters who defy the role that was idealized in the Javanese culture. The women like Rara Mendut and Genduk Duku are intelligent, independent, brave, and rebellious. The women who are under the stereotypical image of women in the Javanese patriarchal society are those who should be good at 3M—having a child (*manak*), cooking (*masak*), and dressing up (*macak*), or the domesticated women. They also represent the different status in society, which divides women and men.



## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menganalisis beberapa tokoh wanita dalam novel *Rara Mendut* karya Y.B Mangunwijaya. Dengan menerapkan teori feminin karakteristik dan peran perempuan dalam budaya Jawa, penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif yang menganalisis data berupa kata dan kalimat yang menggambarkan karakteristik dan peran perempuan, serta bagaimana masyarakat Jawa membentuk karakteristik dan peran perempuan tersebut. Data dikumpulkan dengan membaca novel secara menyeluruh dan membaca buku dan jurnal yang relevan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa setiap tokoh perempuan dalam *Rara Mendut* memiliki peran dan karakteristik yang berbeda. Beberapa perempuan memiliki stereotip perempuan Jawa abad ketujuh belas, yaitu wanita yang patuh, peka, perhatian, memiliki sifat keibuan, penolong dan baik hati, seperti dalam kasus Nyai Ajeng, Ni Semangka, Putri Arumardi, Nyai Singabarong dan Ni Kuweni. Selain itu, ada tokoh perempuan yang menentang peran yang diidealkan dalam budaya Jawa. Wanita seperti Rara Mendut dan Genduk Duku memiliki karakter cerdas, mandiri, pemberani, dan pemberontak. Perempuan yang memiliki citra stereotip perempuan dalam masyarakat patriarki Jawa adalah mereka yang harus pandai 3M - mempunyai anak (manak), memasak (masak), dan berdandan (macak), atau menjadi perempuan domestik. Mereka juga digambarkan memiliki status yang berbeda dalam masyarakat, yang membedakan antara perempuan dan laki-laki.