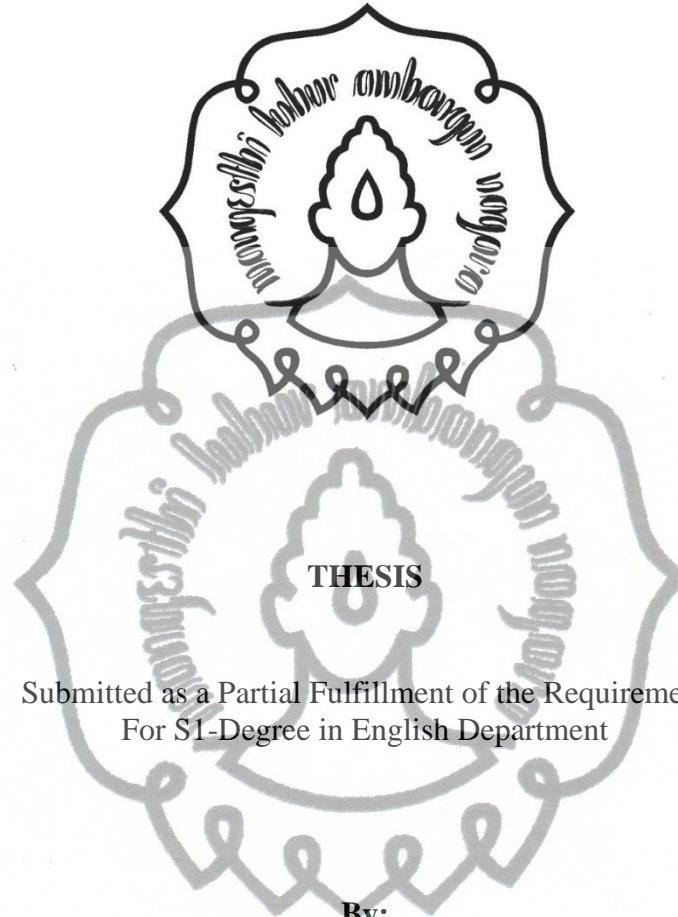


# **WATCHING “WONDER WOMAN”: RECEPTION OF AN AMERICAN FILM BY YOUTH IN INDONESIA**



**THESIS**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement  
For S1-Degree in English Department

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2020**

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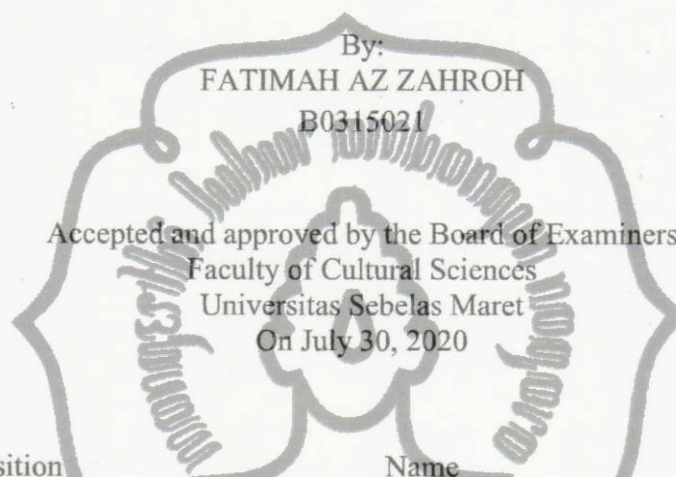
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I hereby state that the thesis entitled *Watching "Wonder Woman": Reception of an American Film by Youth in Indonesia* is neither a plagiarism nor work written by others. All the statements that do not belong to me are written in quotations, citations, and bibliography as well.

If the statement is proven dishonest and untrue, I am willing to take the responsibility and to accept the consequence, including the cancellation of the academic title.

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Fatimah Az-Zahroh

## MOTTO

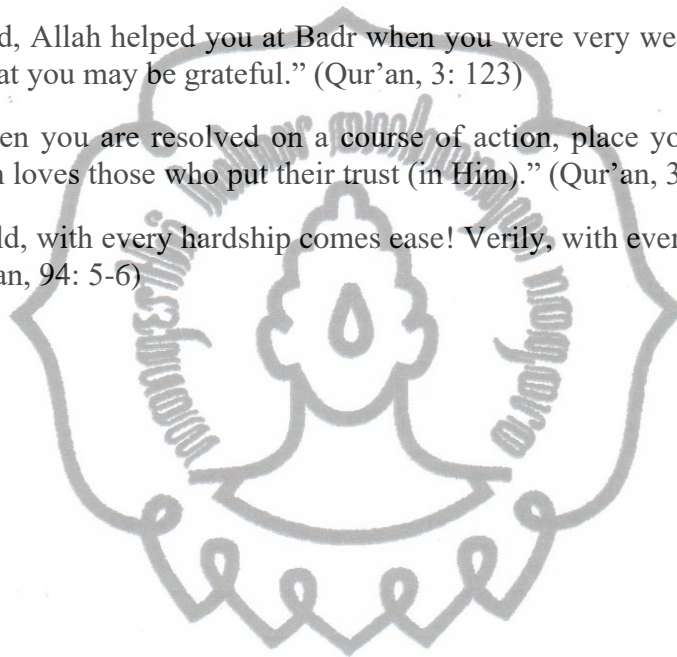
“And seek help through patience and prayer, and indeed, it is difficult except for the humbly submissive (to Allah).” (Qur’an, 2: 45)

“Allah does not burden a soul beyond it can bear...” (Qur’an, 2: 286)

“And Indeed, Allah helped you at Badr when you were very weak. Be mindful of Allah, so that you may be grateful.” (Qur’an, 3: 123)

“...And when you are resolved on a course of action, place your trust in Allah; surely Allah loves those who put their trust (in Him).” (Qur’an, 3: 159)

“And, behold, with every hardship comes ease! Verily, with every hardship comes ease.” (Quran, 94: 5-6)



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## DEDICATION

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful.

I thank Allah SWT for the all the blessing and wonderful possibilities that He gives upon me.

*Alhamdulillah Rabbil 'Alamin.*

By the grace of Allah, I can finally finish this thesis with a lot of perseverance.

I present the thesis for:

**My Beloved Late Mother** who has filled my life with warm and loving memories. My gratitude for you can hardly be expressed by words.

**My Beloved and Inspiring Father** who always stands by me and pours me with limitless love and prayers. Thank you for being my father, my teacher, and my best friend ever.

**My Grandma, My Aunties and My Other Relatives** who always give their support and wishes for my success.

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**Ibu Fitria Akhmerti Primasita** who has motivated me to finish the thesis as soon as possible.

**All of My Dearest Friends** in English Department, KKN Sabah 5, Sobat Aye Aye, SKI FIB UNS, Sekolah Qur'an UNS, Lipo', Bala Bala Team, Group 7 of MTA Jebres, and many more whom I cannot mention one by one. Thanks for all of the love, prayers, support, and joyful moments. Thank you for being there whenever I need more strength and inspiration.

*commit to user*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficent, The Most Merciful. *Alhamdulillah* *al'amin*. Firstly, all praises is to Allah, the Almighty, whose mercy and blessing have provided me with strength, health and opportunity for finishing the thesis entitled **“WATCHING WONDER WOMAN: RECEPTION OF AN AMERICAN FILM BY YOUTH IN INDONESIA.**


Secondly, peace and prayers be upon Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, his family, and his companion, whose journey and effort have led us to the righteous path and brighter time.

This thesis was written and submitted as the partial fulfilment of requirement for S1-degree in English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta. Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to those written below for giving me their guidance, support and pray. This thesis might not be finished well without their contribution.

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2. The Head of English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Dr. Fitria Akhmerti Primasita, S.S.
3. My inspiring thesis supervisor, Dra. Sri Kusumo Habsari, M. Hum., Ph. D.
4. The thesis examiners.
5. The other whom I cannot mention here.

I do realize that the thesis has not been perfect due to my lack of capability in many aspects. However, I wish that the thesis can be beneficial for the readers and the other researchers.

Surakarta, 14 July 2020



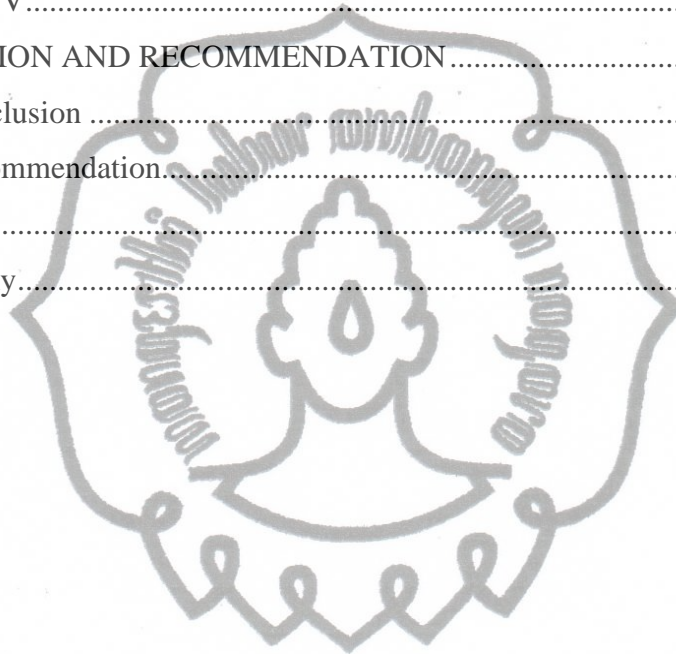
Fatmah Az-Zahroh

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## ABSTRACT

Fatimah Az-Zahroh. B0315021. 2020. Watching “Wonder Woman”: Reception of an American Film by Youth in Indonesia. Thesis: English Department Cultural Sciences Faculty Universitas Sebelas Maret.

Wonder Woman (2017) is one of the feminist movies which has gained high popularity among Hollywood superhero genre in its year. The movie not only draws people’s attention from its origin country America, but also worldwide, including the viewers in Indonesia. Presenting typical female hero figure in Western world, Wonder Woman delivers post-feminist idea through her physical appearance and character which show the combination of both masculinity and femininity. Considering that Indonesia is an Eastern country with different culture from the Western ones, this research explores how the young audiences in Indonesia, as the bigger moviegoers in 2017 than any other age group, take pleasure and make meaning to the element of the Western feminism in the movie.

The research applies descriptive qualitative approach for collecting and analyzing data. The data are gained by interviewing twenty-five Universitas Sebelas Maret students, aged 18 to 25, who have watched Wonder Woman movie. The data are analyzed with Stuart’s Hall reception theory and Ien Ang’s conception of the pleasure of watching to interpret how the young audiences decode and make meaning when watching Wonder Woman. This research also uses Stephanie Genz’s post-feminism theory to understand feminism idea in Wonder Woman from the audiences’ responses.

The result of this research reveals that Gal Gadot’s Diana performance in the movie offers special spectacle to the audience through her feminine qualities, such as beautiful face, ideal female body, and gentle character, despite being a powerful female hero who also has the quality of courage, strong determination, athleticism, and skill in fighting. The duality of Diana’s character in the movie, both the femininity and masculinity, is also noted by the audiences as one of the most notably signs which have presented feminism in the movie. Although most of the audiences are Muslim and embrace Eastern culture, they tend to be more open to the feminist signs in the movie, as they have often been familiarized themselves with Western values by frequently watching Hollywood movies.