

**THE ROLE OF FATHER AND PARTNER IN  
CHARACTER AUBREY IN JACQUELINE WOODSON'S  
NOVEL *RED AT THE BONE***

**THESIS**



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
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**THE ROLE OF FATHER AND PARTNER IN CHARACTER AUBREY IN  
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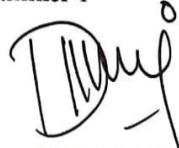
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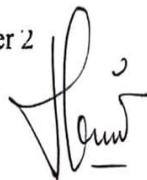
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Surabaya, 13 Juni 2024

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## ABSTRACT

Jihan, A. N. (2024). *The Role of Father and Partner in Character Aubrey in Jacqueline Woodson's Novel Red at the Bone*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A., (II) Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah,, M.A.

Red at the Bone is a novel by Jacqueline Woodson in 2019. This novel tells the story of a teenager's mistake, which causes her to become pregnant out of wedlock. The two teenagers are Aubrey and Iris, who, when they were sixteen years old, entered into an adult relationship based on awareness and desire without thinking, which resulted in Iris becoming pregnant and giving birth to a child named Melody. Iris, who is free-spirited and does not like being tied down in any relationship, is not ready to become a mother and chooses to stay away from Aubrey and Melody. Aubrey, a father, is ultimately responsible for and looks after Melody. For this reason, this research examines the characterization of Aubrey's character and Aubrey's relationship with other characters, as well as Aubrey's role as a father and partner, including the efforts made and Aubrey's motivation to bring Iris and Melody's relationship closer.

This research uses a qualitative descriptive method, namely describing the findings. Apart from that, the data used are novel literary works in the form of words, sentences and conversations in the novel. Researchers use new critical and characterization theories to describe the characterization of the main male character, Aubrey, and analyze the text to answer research problems related to conflict and Aubrey's role in his relationship with Iris and Melody. The research results show that Aubrey has the following characteristics: hard worker, responsible, patient, sincere, loyal, and protective of his children. The research results also show Aubrey's relationship with other characters, as well as Aubrey's role as a father and partner who has the effort and motivation to bring Iris and Melody's relationship closer. Aubrey's efforts to bring Iris and Melody's relationship closer as mother and daughter are as follows: consistently contacting Iris, telling Melody to sleep over or stay at Iris' place, and restraining Iris from going to Oberlin. Then Aubrey's motivation to bring Iris and Melody closer is because Aubrey wants to have a whole family, and Aubrey loves Iris.

**Keywords:** fatherhood, the father-child relationship, couple relationships

## ABSTRAK

Jihan, A. N. (2024). *Peran Ayah dan Pasangan dalam Karakter Aubrey dalam Novel Red at the Bone karya Jacqueline Woodson*. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A., (II) Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah,, M.A.

Red at the Bone merupakan novel karya Jacqueline Woodson tahun 2019. Novel ini bercerita tentang kesalahan seorang remaja yang menyebabkan ia hamil di luar nikah. Kedua remaja tersebut adalah Aubrey dan Iris, yang ketika mereka berumur enam belas tahun, menjalin hubungan dewasa berdasarkan kesadaran dan keinginan tanpa berpikir panjang, yang mengakibatkan Iris hamil dan melahirkan seorang anak bernama Melody. Iris yang berjiwa bebas dan tidak suka terikat dalam hubungan apapun, belum siap menjadi seorang ibu dan memilih menjauh dari Aubrey dan Melody. Aubrey, seorang ayah, pada akhirnya bertanggung jawab dan menjaga Melody. Untuk itu penelitian ini mengkaji tentang penokohan tokoh Aubrey dan hubungan Aubrey dengan tokoh lain, serta peran Aubrey sebagai ayah dan pasangan, termasuk upaya yang dilakukan dan motivasi Aubrey untuk mendekatkan hubungan Iris dan Melody.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif yaitu mendeskripsikan temuan. Selain itu data yang digunakan adalah karya sastra novel berupa kata, kalimat dan percakapan dalam novel tersebut. Peneliti menggunakan teori kritis dan penokohan baru untuk mendeskripsikan penokohan tokoh utama laki-laki, Aubrey, dan menganalisis teks untuk menjawab permasalahan penelitian terkait konflik dan peran Aubrey dalam hubungannya dengan Iris dan Melody. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Aubrey memiliki ciri-ciri sebagai berikut: pekerja keras, bertanggung jawab, sabar,ikhlas, setia, dan protektif terhadap anak-anaknya. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan hubungan Aubrey dengan karakter lain, serta peran Aubrey sebagai ayah dan pasangan yang memiliki upaya dan motivasi untuk mendekatkan hubungan Iris dan Melody. Upaya Aubrey untuk mendekatkan hubungan Iris dan Melody sebagai ibu dan anak adalah sebagai berikut: konsisten menghubungi Iris, menyuruh Melody menginap atau menginap di tempat Iris, dan menahan Iris untuk pergi ke Oberlin. Lalu motivasi Aubrey mendekatkan Iris dan Melody adalah karena Aubrey ingin mempunyai keluarga utuh, dan Aubrey mencintai Iris.

**Kata Kunci:** peran sebagai ayah, hubungan ayah-anak, hubungan pasangan

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