

**AFAF RACHMAN'S CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT IN SAHAR**

**MUSTAFAH'S THE BEAUTY OF YOUR FACE NOVEL**

**THESIS**



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
S U R A B A Y A**

**BY:**

**ALVANDI RIZKY PRABOWO**

**REG. NUMBER A03218006**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL  
SURABAYA  
2025**

## DECLARATION

I am the undersigned below:

Name : Alvandi Rizky Prabowo

NIM : A03218006

Department : English Literature

Faculty : Adab and Humanities

University : UIN Sunan Ampel

declares that the thesis entitled:

**Afaf Rachman's Character Development in Sahar Mustafah's The Beauty of Your Face Novel** is my own work, and not a plagiarism/fabrication in part or in whole.

If in the future it is proven that this thesis results from plagiarism/fabrication, either in part or whole, then I am willing to accept sanctions for such actions in accordance with the applicable provisions.

Surabaya, 11 June 2025

Who makes the statement



Alvandi Rizky Prabowo

Reg. Number. A03218006

## APPROVAL SHEET

AFAF RACHMAN'S CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT IN SAHAR  
MUSTAFAH'S THE BEAUTY OF YOUR FACE NOVEL

by

Alvandi Rizky Prabowo  
Reg. Number A03218006

approved to be examined by the board of examiners of English Literature  
Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities; UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

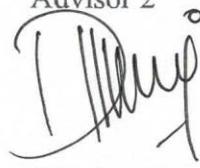
Surabaya, 17 June 2025

Advisor 1



Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum.  
NIP. 19820704202312023

Advisor 2



Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.  
NIP. 199203062020122019

Acknowledged by  
The Head of the English Literature Department



Dr. Endratno Pilih Swasono, M.Pd  
NIP. 1971106072003121001

## EXAMINER SHEET

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Alvandi Rizky Prabowo (Reg. Number A03218006) entitled **Afaf Rachman's Character Development in Sahar Mustafah's The Beauty of Your Face Novel** has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Surabaya, 18 June 2025

Board of Examiners:

Examiner 1

Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum.  
NIP. 19820704202312023

Examiner 2

Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.  
NIP. 199203062020122019

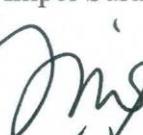
Examiner 3

Dr. Abu Fanani, M.Pd.  
NIP. 196906152007011051

Examiner 4

Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A.  
NIP. 197604122011012003



Acknowledged by:  
The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Humanities  
UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya  
  
Prof. Dr. H. Achmad Zaini, M.A.  
NIP. 197005121995031002



UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
SURABAYA

**KEMENTERIAN AGAMA**  
**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA**  
**PERPUSTAKAAN**

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300  
E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

---

**LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI  
KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS**

Sebagai sivitas akademika UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya:

Nama : ALVANDI RIZKY PRABOWO  
NIM : A03218006  
Fakultas/Jurusan : ADAB DAN HUMANIORA/SASTRA INGGRIS  
E-mail address : alvandiofficial@gmail.com

Demi pengembangan ilmu pengetahuan, menyetujui untuk memberikan kepada Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, Hak Bebas Royalti Non-Eksklusif atas karya ilmiah :

Sekripsi    Tesis    Desertasi    Lain-lain ( ..... )  
yang berjudul :

**AFAF RACHMAN'S CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT IN SAHAR**

**MUSTAFAH'S THE BEAUTY OF YOUR FACE NOVEL**

---

beserta perangkat yang diperlukan (bila ada). Dengan Hak Bebas Royalti Non-Eksklusif ini Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya berhak menyimpan, mengalih-media/format-kan, mengelolanya dalam bentuk pangkalan data (database), mendistribusikannya, dan menampilkan/mempublikasikannya di Internet atau media lain secara **fulltext** untuk kepentingan akademis tanpa perlu meminta ijin dari saya selama tetap mencantumkan nama saya sebagai penulis/pencipta dan atau penerbit yang bersangkutan.

Saya bersedia untuk menanggung secara pribadi, tanpa melibatkan pihak Perpustakaan UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, segala bentuk tuntutan hukum yang timbul atas pelanggaran Hak Cipta dalam karya ilmiah saya ini.

Demikian pernyataan ini yang saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

Surabaya, 26 Agustus 2025

Penulis

  
( Alvandi Rizky Prabowo )

## ABSTRACT

Prabowo, A. R. (2025). *Afaf Rachman's Character Development in Sahar Mustafah's The Beauty of Your Face Novel*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum, (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

The study aims at examining the main character's development in *The Beauty of Your Face* novel. The study examines Afaf Rahman, the main character of the novel. There are two research problems in this study: (1) How is Afaf Rahman's character development depicted through the novel? And (2) What are the factors causing the character development?

This study uses qualitative approach in relation to the use of clear and systematic description. This study also applies descriptive study in textual analysis to analyze narrator's narration of the main character throughout the novel. The data are collected by copying notable narration and conversation in the novel. The analysis is conducted by identifying important events, conversation, and actions that is done or experienced by the main character that leads to the development of the character. The analysis also compiles a list of factors that causes the character development.

This study uncovers that Afaf Rahman's character development goes through tumultuous process. Afaf's parents' negligence and her surroundings' refusal to accept her leads to Afaf's rowdy teenage years. Afaf's life improves when she discovered Islam through her father. She feels accepted by the Muslim community and feels deserving of a salvation. Afaf decides to devote herself to Islam, wearing hijab and doing charity work. In the Muslim community, she meets her husband who gives her the feeling of being needed for the first time. She then become the principal of Nurrideen School for Girls. Unfortunately, one day a school shooter attacks the school. Afaf confronts the shooter and got shot. Fortunately, she survived. The attack gave her trauma. Nevertheless, she keeps her faith in Islam. The study also reveals several factors that lead Afaf's character development, namely: Afaf's parents' negligence, treatment from her community, Afaf's discovery of Islam through her father, Afaf's devotion to Islam, and the school shooting incident.

**Keywords:** Character, character development.

## ABSTRAK

Prabowo, A. R. 2025. *Perkembangan Karakter Afaf Rachman dalam Novel The Beauty of Your Face Karya Sahar Mustafah.* Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum., (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji perkembangan karakter tokoh utama dalam novel ‘The Beauty of Your Face’. Afaf Rahman merupakan tokoh utama yang akan diteliti dalam penelitian ini. Ada dua rumusan masalah dalam penelitian ini: (1) Bagaimana perkembangan karakter Afaf Rahman digambarkan melalui novel tersebut? dan (2) Apa saja faktor yang menyebabkan perkembangan karakter tersebut?

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan menggunakan deskripsi yang jelas dan sistematis. Penelitian deskriptif dalam analisis tekstual diterapkan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis narasi narator terhadap tokoh utama di seluruh novel. Data dikumpulkan dengan cara menyalin narasi dan percakapan penting dalam novel. Analisis dilakukan dengan mengidentifikasi peristiwa penting, percakapan, dan tindakan yang dilakukan atau dialami oleh tokoh utama yang mengarah pada pengembangan karakter. Proses analisis juga menyusun daftar faktor yang menyebabkan perkembangan karakter.

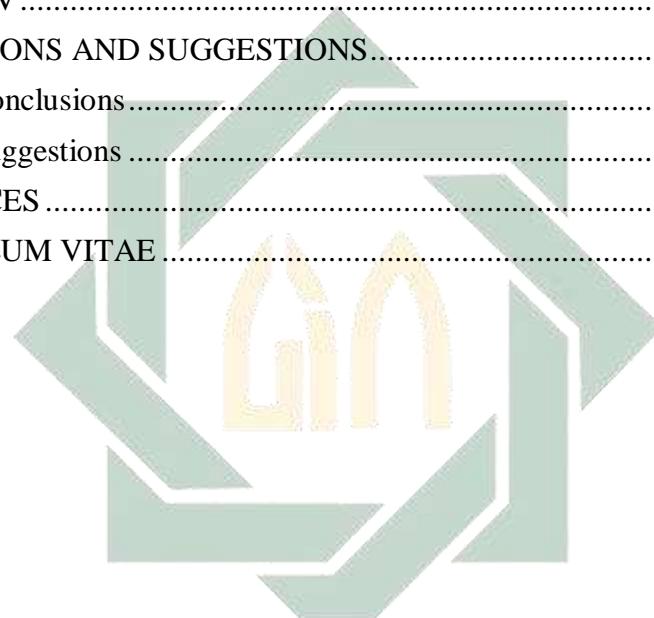
Penelitian ini mengungkap bahwa perkembangan karakter Afaf Rahman melalui proses yang penuh gejolak. Kelalaian orang tua Afaf dan penolakan lingkungan sekitarnya menyebabkan kenakalananya di masa remaja. Kehidupan Afaf membaik ketika ia menemukan Islam melalui ayahnya. Ia merasa diterima oleh komunitas Muslim dan merasa layak untuk diselamatkan. Afaf memutuskan untuk mengabdikan dirinya kepada Islam, mengenakan jilbab dan melakukan pekerjaan amal. Di komunitas Muslim, ia bertemu dengan suaminya yang memberinya perasaan dibutuhkan untuk pertama kalinya. Ia kemudian menjadi kepala sekolah Nurrildeen School for Girls. Sayangnya, suatu hari seorang penembak sekolah menyerang sekolah tersebut. Afaf menghadapi penembakan itu dan tertembak. Untungnya, ia selamat. Serangan itu memberinya trauma. Meskipun demikian, ia tetap memegang keimanannya kepada Islam. Penelitian ini juga mengungkap beberapa faktor yang menyebabkan perkembangan karakter Afaf, yaitu: kelalaian orang tua Afaf, perlakuan dari komunitasnya, penemuan Islam Afaf melalui ayahnya, pengabdian Afaf kepada Islam, dan insiden penembakan di sekolah.

**Kata Kunci:** Character, character development.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Inside Cover Page .....	i
Inside Title Page .....	i
DECLARATION .....	ii
APPROVAL SHEET .....	iii
EXAMINER SHEET .....	iv
Lembar Pernyataan Persetujuan Publikasi .....	v
ACKNOWLEDGMENT .....	vi
ABSTRACT .....	vii
ABSTRAK .....	viii
TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	ix
CHAPTER I .....	1
INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1    Background of the Study .....	1
1.2    Problems of the Study.....	4
1.3    Objectives of the Study.....	5
1.4    Significances of the Study .....	5
1.5    Scope and Delimitations .....	5
1.6    Definition of Key Terms.....	6
CHAPTER II .....	7
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE .....	7
2.1    New Criticism Theory .....	7
2.2    Characterization .....	8
2.2.1    Direct Characterization .....	8
2.2.2    Indirect Characterization .....	8
2.3    Character Development .....	9
CHAPTER III.....	11
RESEARCH METHOD.....	11
3.1    Research Design.....	11
3.2    Data Collection.....	11
3.2.1    Research Data.....	11
3.2.2    Data Source .....	12
3.2.3    Instruments .....	12
3.2.4    Data Collection Technique.....	12

3.3	Data Analysis Technique .....	12
CHAPTER IV.....		14
ANALYSIS .....		14
4.1	How is Afaf Rahman's character development depicted through the novel	14
4.1.1	Afaf Rahman's Childhood Problems .....	14
4.1.2	Afaf's Delinquent Teenage Years and Her Discovery of Islam....	19
4.1.3	Afaf's Devotion to Islam.....	28
4.1.4	The School Shooting.....	40
4.2	What are the factors causing the character development? .....	43
CHAPTER V .....		46
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.....		46
5.1	Conclusions .....	46
5.2	Suggestions .....	49
REFERENCES .....		51
CURRICULUM VITAE .....		53



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
S U R A B A Y A**

## REFERENCES

- Abrams, M. H., & Harpham, G. G. (2013). *A glossary of literary terms* (11th Ed). Cengage Learning, Inc
- Bennett, A., & Royle, N. (2004). *An introduction to literature, criticism and theory* (third edition). Pearson
- Bessler, C. E. (2011). *Literary criticism: An introduction to theory and practice* (Second Printing). Pearson.
- Charters, A. (2011). *The story and its written: An introduction to short fiction*. New York: Bedford.
- Hasanah, A. N., Natsir, M., Ariani, S. (2018). Character development of Agatha Prenderghast in Cody Kimmel's paranorman novel. *Ilmu Budaya: Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, Seni, dan Budaya*, 2(3), 268-275 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.30872/jbssb.v2i3.1156>
- Hidayani, R. (2014). Perkembangan manusia. In R. Hidayani, M. Sugianto, R. Tarigan, E. Handayani *Psikologi perkembangan anak* (pp.1-34). Universitas Terbuka
- Lamghari, R., & Chaoui, S. (2025). Post-secular articulations of belonging: Islam and spiritual awakening in Sahar Mustafah's *The Beauty of Your Face*. *Social Identities*, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504630.2025.2465356>
- Nabilah, C. (2023). *Analysis of the main character's development in Fredrik Backman's novel: A man called ove*. Undergraduate thesis, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya
- Nurgiyantoro, B. (2002). *Teori pengkajian fiksi*. Yogyakarta: UGM Press
- Nurgiyantoro, B. (2005). *Sastra anak: Pengantar pemahaman dunia anak*. Yogyakarta: UGM Press
- Roberts, E. V., & Zweig, R. (2011). *Literature: An introduction to reading and writing* (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Longman Publishing Group
- Safeer, A. K., Kanwal, A., Adeel, H. M. (2025). A critical exploration of gender dynamics in the beauty of your face by Sahar Mustafah: Islamic feminism perspective. *The Critical Review of Social Sciences Studies*, 3(1), 1575-1584. <https://doi.org/10.59075/ywa34a93>
- Siti, A. (2021). Exploring otherness and acculturation through the main character in Sahar Mustafah's novel 'the beauty of your face'. *Morphosis: Journal of literature*, 3(2), 2686-2999. Retrieved on 21 April 2025 from <https://openjournal.unpam.ac.id/index.php/MPS/article/view/38697>

Taylor, Richard. *Understanding the element of literature*. London: The Macmillan Press LTD. 1981.

Wellek, R., & Austin, W. (1976). Theory of literature. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World. Vol. 15.



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
S U R A B A Y A**