

**SEMIOTIC STUDY OF FAIRY TALE CHARACTERS IN
BREAK YOUR GLASS SLIPPERS BY AMANDA
LOVELACE**

THESIS



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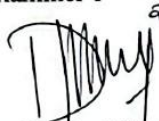
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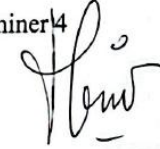
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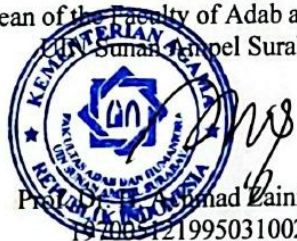

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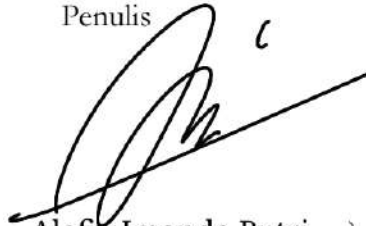
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ABSTRACT

Putri, Alefia Imanda. (2025). *Semiotic Study of Fairy Tale Characters in Break Your Glass Slippers by Amanda Lovelace*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

This study examines the representation of fairy-tale characters in Amanda Lovelace's book, a poetry collection, *Break Your Glass Slippers*, through the lens of Roland Barthes' semiotic theory. Drawing on Barthes' concepts of denotation, connotation, and myth, this research explores how familiar fairy-tale figures are reconstructed to convey new meanings within contemporary feminist poetry. The study employs a qualitative descriptive approach, using close Reading to analyze the poems that prominently feature fairy-tale characters.

The findings reveal that Lovelace frequently reuses characters such as the fairy godmother, prince, princess, witch, stepmother, stepsister, unicorn, king, and queen. At the same time, these figures retain their traditional denotative meanings as recognizable fairy-tale characters; their connotative and mythic meanings undergo significant transformation. The fairy godmother, identified as the most dominant symbol, is no longer portrayed as a magical rescuer but is reinterpreted as a symbol of inner strength and self-guidance. Similarly, characters such as the prince and princess challenge conventional myths of romantic salvation, female passivity, and male authority.

Overall, this study demonstrates that *Break Your Glass Slippers* reconstructs fairy-tale myths to question patriarchal narratives and emphasize themes of self-worth, independence, and emotional growth. By dismantling traditional fairy-tale expectations, Lovelace's poetry invites readers to redefine empowerment beyond externally imposed ideals of happiness and fulfillment.

Keywords: Fairy Tale, Semiotics, Poetic Representation

ABSTRAK

Putri, Alefia Imanda. (2025). *Studi Semiotika Tokoh-Tokoh Dongeng dalam Break Your Glass Slippers oleh Amanda Lovelace*. Skripsi Sarjana. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A. (II) Sufi Ikrima Saadah M.Hum.

Penelitian ini mengkaji representasi tokoh-tokoh dongeng dalam buku kumpulan puisi *Break Your Glass Slippers* karya Amanda Lovelace dengan menggunakan teori semiotika Roland Barthes. Penelitian ini berfokus pada analisis makna melalui tiga tingkat semiotika, yaitu denotasi, konotasi, dan mitos, untuk melihat bagaimana tokoh-tokoh dongeng yang sudah dikenal direkonstruksi dalam puisi-puisi kontemporer bernuansa feminis. Metode yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan teknik pembacaan mendalam (*close reading*) terhadap puisi-puisi yang mengandung simbol tokoh dongeng.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Lovelace menggunakan berbagai tokoh dongeng seperti peri ibu, pangeran, putri, penyihir, ibu tiri, saudara tiri, unicorn, raja, dan ratu. Tokoh peri ibu muncul sebagai simbol yang paling dominan dan ditafsirkan ulang bukan sebagai penyelamat magis, melainkan sebagai representasi kekuatan dan bimbingan dari dalam diri. Meskipun tokoh-tokoh tersebut mempertahankan makna denotatif tradisionalnya, makna konotatif dan mitos yang dibangun justru menantang narasi dongeng konvensional, seperti penyelamatan romantis, kepasifan perempuan, dan otoritas laki-laki.

Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa *Break Your Glass Slippers* merekonstruksi mitos-mitos dongeng untuk menegaskan nilai kemandirian, pertumbuhan emosional, dan penghargaan terhadap diri sendiri. Dengan meruntuhkan ekspektasi dongeng tradisional, puisi-puisi Lovelace mengajak pembaca untuk mendefinisikan ulang makna pemberdayaan di luar konsep kebahagiaan yang ditentukan oleh pihak luar.

Kata Kunci: Dongeng, Semiotika, Representasi Puisi

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