

**FROM OVE TO OTTO: CHARACTER TRANSFORMATION
AND CULTURAL SHIFT IN SWEDISH NOVEL BY
FREDRIK BACKMAN TO AMERICAN FILM ADAPTATION**

THESIS



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Swedish Novel by Fredrik Backman to American Film Adaptation**

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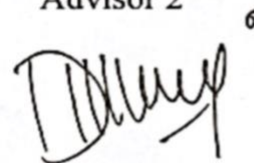
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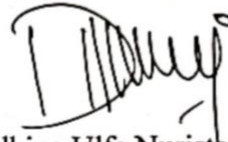
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ABSTRACT

Sekararum, D. A. (2026). *From Ove to Otto: Character Transformation and Cultural Shift in Swedish Novel by Fredrik Backman to American Film Adaptation*, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, Advisor (1): Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum (2) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M. Hum

This research examines the character differences in Fredrik Backman's novel, *A Man Called Ove*, and Marc Foster's film adaptation, *A Man Called Otto*, as influenced by cultural differences. The research focuses on the main characters appearing in both works. Therefore, this study focuses on describing the character changes influenced by these cultural differences.

The researcher used a comparative approach and adaptation theory to collect and analyze data from narratives depicting character changes in both works. In this study, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive method to collect data in a clear and systematic manner.

The results show that the transformation from *Ove* to *Otto* is closely related to cultural adaptation from a Swedish to an American context. *Ove*'s characterization reflects Swedish values of social responsibility, rule-following, and collective welfare, while *Otto*'s portrayal emphasizes themes of individual resilience, multicultural interaction, and community diversity that are more relevant to contemporary American society. These cultural adjustments are reflected through changes in character relationships, supporting characters, occupations, and social interactions. Therefore, the study argues that adaptation functions as a form of cultural translation, enabling the story to remain meaningful for different audiences while preserving its central themes.

Keywords: Adaptation, Character Transformation, Cultural Translation, Swedish Culture, American Culture

ABSTRAK

Sekararum, D. A., (2026). *Dari Ove ke Otto: Transformasi Karakter dan Pergeseran Budaya dalam Novel Swedia karya Fredrik Backman yang Diadaptasi Menjadi Film Amerika*, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, Pembimbing (1): Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum (2) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M. Hum.

Penelitian ini mengkaji perbedaan karakter dalam novel *A Man Called Ove* karya Fredrik Backman dan film adaptasi *A Man Called Otto* karya Marc Foster yang dipengaruhi oleh perbedaan budaya. Penelitian ini berfokus pada karakter utama yang muncul dalam kedua karya tersebut. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini berfokus pada pendeskripsian perubahan karakter yang dipengaruhi oleh perbedaan budaya tersebut.

Peneliti menggunakan pendekatan komparatif (studi perbandingan) dan teori adaptasi untuk menganalisis data berdasarkan narasi yang menggambarkan perubahan karakter dalam kedua karya tersebut. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif untuk mengumpulkan data secara jelas dan sistematis.

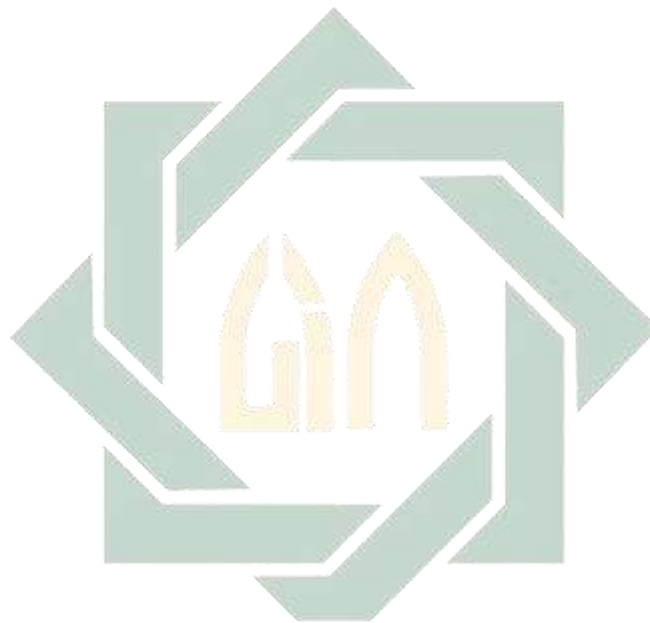
Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa transformasi dari Ove menjadi Otto berkaitan erat dengan adaptasi budaya dari konteks Swedia ke konteks Amerika. Karakterisasi Ove mencerminkan nilai-nilai Swedia tentang tanggung jawab sosial, kepatuhan terhadap aturan, dan kesejahteraan kolektif, sementara penggambaran Otto menekankan tema-tema ketahanan individu, interaksi multikultural, dan keragaman komunitas yang lebih relevan dengan masyarakat Amerika kontemporer. Penyesuaian budaya ini tercermin melalui perubahan dalam hubungan antar karakter, karakter pendukung, pekerjaan, dan interaksi sosial. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini berpendapat bahwa adaptasi berfungsi sebagai bentuk penerjemahan budaya, yang memungkinkan cerita tetap bermakna bagi berbagai audiens sambil tetap mempertahankan tema-tema utamanya.

Keywords: Adaptasi, Perubahan Karakter, Penerjemahan Budaya, Budaya Swedia, Budaya Amerika

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