

**THE MAIN CHARACTER'S LONELINESS IN
ALL GROWN UP BY JAMI ATTENBERG**

THESIS



UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A

BY:

FARHANAH ZULFI PURWANTI

REG. NUMBER 03020320056

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

2025

DECLARATION

I am the undersigned below:

Name : Farhanah Zulfi Purwanti
NIM : 03020320056
Department : English Literature
Faculty : Adab and Humanities
University : UIN Sunan Ampel

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Farhanah Zulfi Purwanti

Reg. Number. 03020320056

APPROVAL SHEET

THE MAIN CHARACTER'S LONELINESS IN
"ALL GROWN UP" BY JAMI ATTENBERG

by
Farhanah Zulfi Purwanti
Reg. Number 03020320056

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

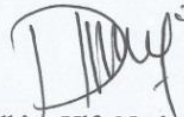
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Advisor 1



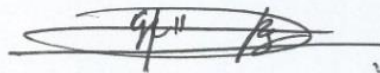
Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum
NIP/NUP. 197002051999032002

Advisor 2



Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.
NIP/NUP. 199203062020122019

Acknowledged by
The Head of the English Literature Department



Dr. Endratno Pili Swasono, M.Pd
NIP. 197106072003121001

EXAMINER SHEET

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Farhanah Zulfi Purwanti (Reg. Number 03020320056) entitled **The Main Character's Loneliness in *All Grown Up* by Jami Attenberg** 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.

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Examiner 1



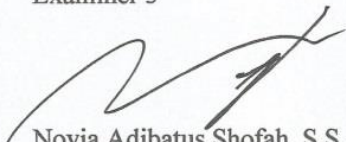
Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum.
NIP. 197002051999032002

Examiner 2



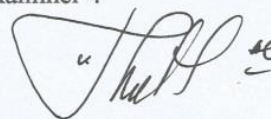
Sufi Ikrima Saadah, M.Hum.
NIP. 198207042023212023

Examiner 3



Novia Adibatus Shofah, S.S., M.Hum.
NIP. 199211252024212046

Examiner 4



Lutfiyah Alindah, M.Hum, M.A.
NIP. 198607202020122010



Acknowledged by:

The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Humanities
UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

Prof. Dr. H. Achmad Zaini, M.A.
NIP. 197005121995031002



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

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

Nama : Farhanah Zulfi Purwanti
NIM : 0302 032 0056
Fakultas/Jurusan : Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora / Sastra Inggris
E-mail address : farhanahpurwanti@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Purwanti F. Z. (2025). *The Main Character's Loneliness in All Grown Up by Jami Attenberg*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum. (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

This study explores the theme of loneliness in *All Grown Up*, a novel by Jami Attenberg, with a particular focus on the emotional state is to examine how loneliness is depicted through personal relationship, social expectations, and the main character's internal psychological landscape. This study aims to answer the following question: how is loneliness is depicted in *All Grown Up*, and in what ways is the main character coping with and responding to emotional isolation? The aim is to analyze the representation of loneliness as a major force influencing identity, interpersonal interactions, and life perspectives in the narrative.

A qualitative descriptive method was used in this study. This study is based on the New Criticism theoretical framework, which emphasizes the close reading of literary texts as independent units of meaning. This approach focuses on the analysis of structure, characterization, dialogue, and symbolism in the novel without considering external context such as the author's biography or historical background. This analysis highlights how literary devices reflects the complexity of psychological conflicts and emotional disconnections experienced by the main character.

The findings reveal that loneliness in *All Grown Up* is manifested through a lack of emotional intimacy in familial, social, and romantic context. The narrative depicts ongoing internal conflict, emotional dissonance, and a constant search for meaning amidst the pressures of modern adulthood. The relationships in the novel fail to provide satisfaction or a sense of belonging, reinforcing isolation as a recurring theme. Ultimately, loneliness functions not only as a personal struggle but also as a representations of the existential crisis of contemporary urban life.

Keywords: Loneliness, New Criticism, Interpersonal Conflict, Midlife Crisis, Post-modern identity

ABSTRAK

Purwanti, F. Z. (2025). *Kesepian Karakter Utama dalam All Grown Up karya Jami Attenberg*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: (I) Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum. (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.

Studi ini mengeksplorasi tema kesepian dalam *All Grown Up*, sebuah novel karya Jami Attenberg, dengan fokus khusus pada kondisi emosional yang dialami oleh tokoh utama, Andrea Bern. Tujuan dari studi ini adalah untuk meneliti bagaimana kesepian digambarkan melalui hubungan pribadi, ekspektasi sosial, dan lanskap psikologis internal tokoh utama. Studi ini bertujuan untuk menjawab pertanyaan-pertanyaan berikut: bagaimana kesepian digambarkan dalam *All Grown Up*, dan dengan cara apa tokoh utama mengatasi dan menanggapi isolasi emosional? Tujuannya adalah untuk menganalisis representasi kesepian sebagai kekuatan utama yang memengaruhi identitas, interaksi interpersonal, dan perspektif hidup dalam narasi.

Metode deskriptif kualitatif digunakan dalam studi ini. Studi ini didasarkan pada kerangka teori Kritik Baru, yang menekankan pembacaan cermat teks sastra sebagai unit makna yang independen. Pendekatan ini berfokus pada analisis struktur, karakterisasi, dialog, dan simbolisme dalam novel tanpa mempertimbangkan konteks eksternal seperti biografi penulis atau latar belakang sejarah. Analisis ini menyoroti bagaimana perangkat sastra mencerminkan kompleksitas konflik psikologis dan keterputusan emosional yang dialami oleh tokoh utama.

Temuan tersebut mengungkap bahwa kesepian dalam *All Grown Up* terwujud melalui kurangnya keintiman emosional dalam konteks keluarga, sosial, dan romantis. Narasi tersebut menggambarkan konflik internal yang berkelanjutan, disonansi emosional, dan pencarian makna yang terus-menerus di tengah tekanan kedewasaan modern. Hubungan dalam novel tersebut gagal memberikan kepuasan atau rasa memiliki, sehingga memperkuat isolasi sebagai tema yang berulang. Pada akhirnya, kesepian berfungsi tidak hanya sebagai perjuangan pribadi tetapi juga sebagai representasi krisis eksistensial kehidupan perkotaan kontemporer.

Kata Kunci: Kesepian, Konflik Antarpribadi, Krisis Paruhbaya, Identitas pascamodern

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